

5

THE FINAL EVOLUTION

**The Final
Evolution**

STORY BY
TADASHI KAWASHIMA
ART BY **ADACHITOKA**

Alive

5

Writer / Tadashi Kawashima
Artist / Adachitoka



Shigeki Katsumata

Former detective and a leader type among the “comrades” with supernatural powers. Received orders from “the One” and plans to start a world revolution.



Takumi Yura

One of Katsumata’s comrades. Controls highly pressurized air bubbles, and claims to be a leader of humans, but slaughters people mercilessly. Has frizzy hair and wears coveralls.



Kenichirou Morio

One of Katsumata’s comrades. Controls wind to create sharp blades of air like a *kamaitachi* to slice humans. Hates Taisuke for burning a permanent scar on his face.



Gou Okada

One of Katsumata’s comrades. Kills those who’ve broken a promise to him using his power, “Grim Reaper’s Promise.” Has an inferiority complex about his appearance/existence.



Yuichi Hirose

Taisuke’s close friend. He used to be weak and shy, but changed personalities after he acquired supernatural powers, and kidnapped Megumi. Accompanies Katsumata.



Megumi Ochiai

Taisuke’s childhood girlfriend. She always ends up arguing with Taisuke because she worries about him so much. Kidnapped by Hirose and confined in the house.



Kyouko Amamiya

Passionate reporter of a weekly gossip magazine. Opposes the editorial policy of focusing on gossip and far-fetched occult material, and investigates the string of incidents related to the mass suicides.



Masashi Oda

Weekly gossip magazine reporter, junior to Amamiya. Comes across as a lazy employee, but is supposedly a hard worker. Unfortunately, Amamiya drags him around.

Chapter 16

You’re No Different ————— **6**
Somebody must play the bad parts in this world!

Chapter 17

In One’s Heart... ————— **57**
Believe those who are seeking the truth; doubt those who find it.

Chapter 18

Who Am I Like? ————— **105**
Listen to what he does not say.

Chapter 19

Back Then, I Was— ————— **150**
When childhood dies, its corpses are called...?



Taisuke Kanou

High school student weak in fights, but has a strong sense of justice. During “Nightmare Week,” acquired a supernatural power to control heat. Currently on a journey to find Hirose and Megumi.



Yuta Takizawa

Little boy traveling with Taisuke. Has a deep, emotional scar resulting from witnessing his mother’s suicide. Has ability to isolate space and saved Taisuke several times already.



Nami Kusunoki

Has power to use claws made of ice. Searching for a red-haired girl to avenge the death of her younger brother. Hates those with supernatural powers so much that she hopes they all get eliminated.



Youko Kanou

Taisuke’s older sister and also school nurse. Strong-willed woman who raised Taisuke after their parents died.



Alive

The Final Evolution





!?

NAMI,
DON'T
!!

Chapter 16

You're No Different

Somebody must play the bad parts in this world!





DIE...?



Oh...

THE
LITTLE
GIRL
WILL
DIE!



HE MADE
THE LITTLE
GIRL
PROMISE
HIM...

"IF YOU
LEAVE
ME,
YOU'LL
DIE."



IF SOMEONE
BREAKS A
PROMISE, THEN
THEY'LL GET THE
DEATH PENALTY,
LIKE THOSE
GUYS.





SHE'LL
DIE!!



Ohh
!

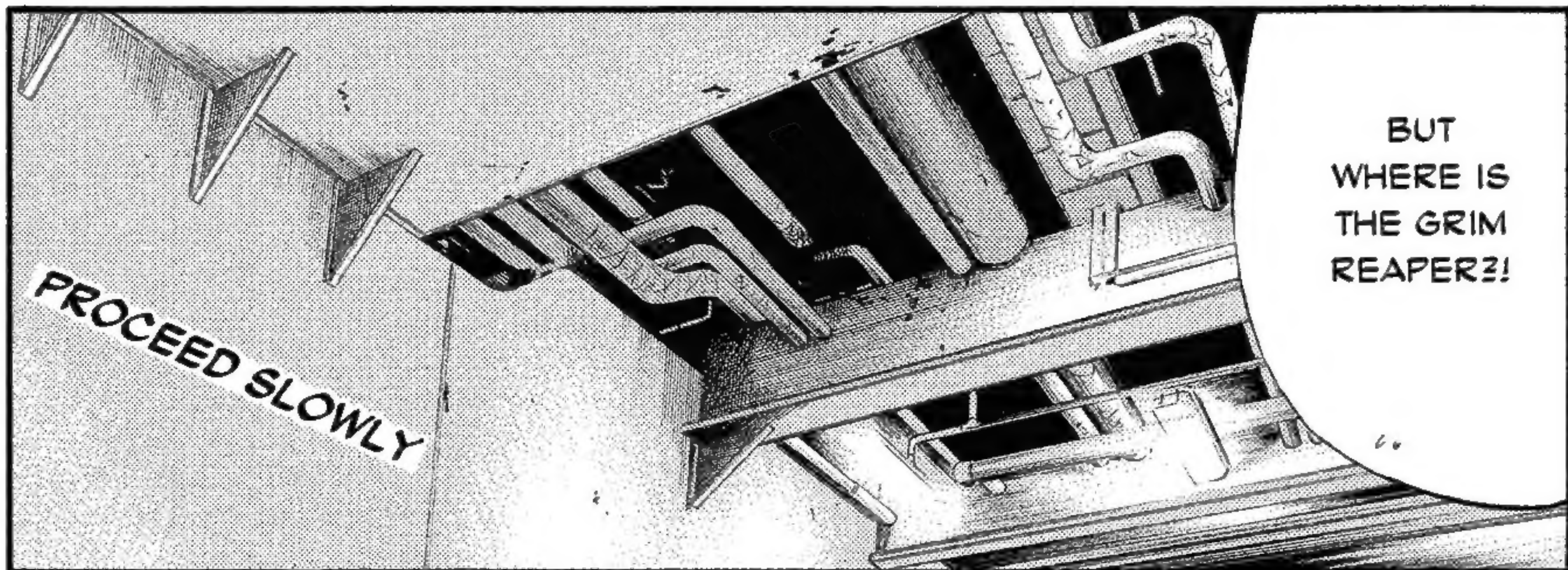
SO IF THE
LITTLE
GIRL
LEAVES
HIM...



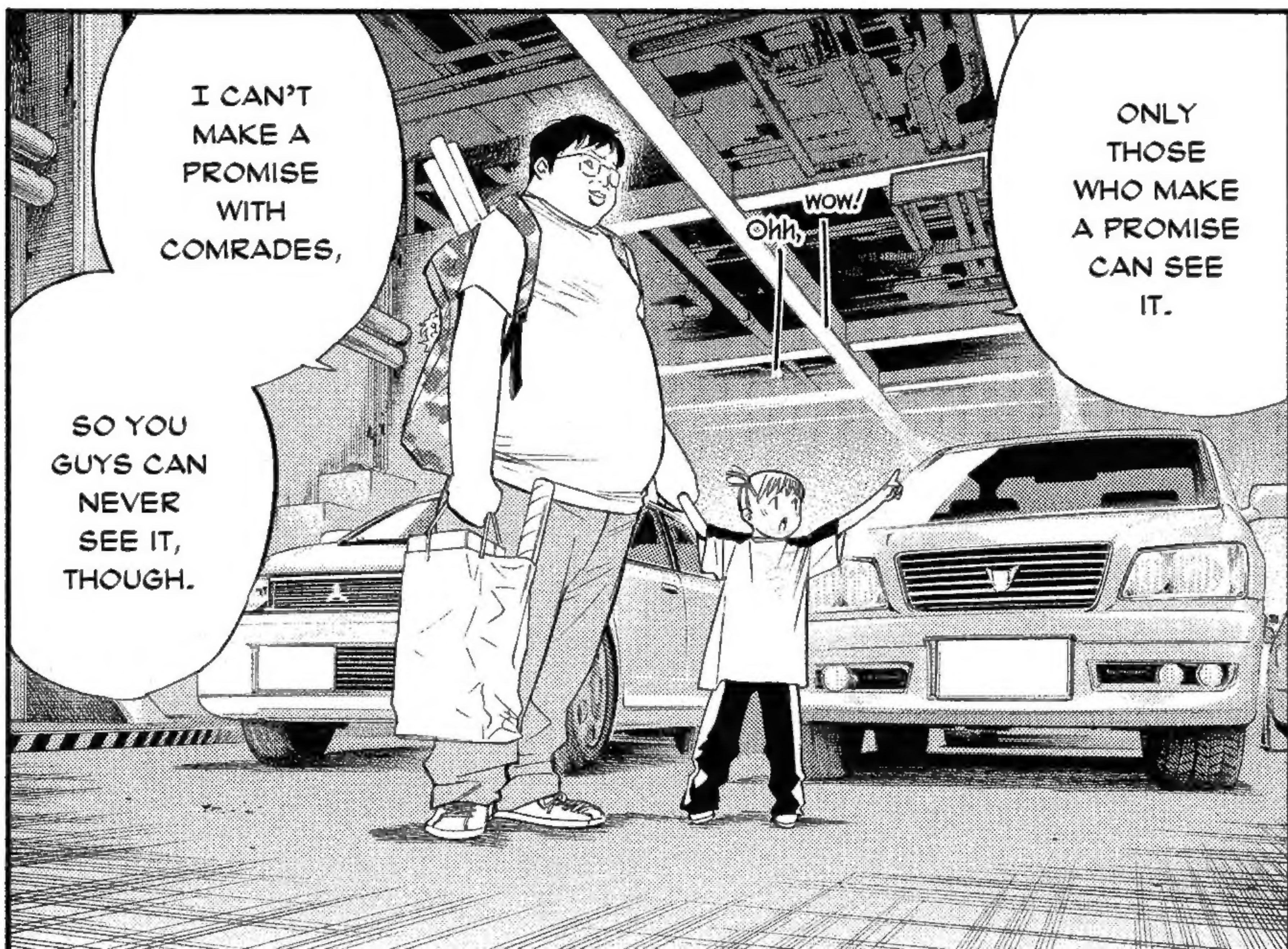
Grim...

Kyaaaah!!

OH! SO
THAT GUY
RECEIVED
THE DEATH
PENALTY!!



BUT
WHERE IS
THE GRIM
REAPER?!



I CAN'T
MAKE A
PROMISE
WITH
COMRADES,

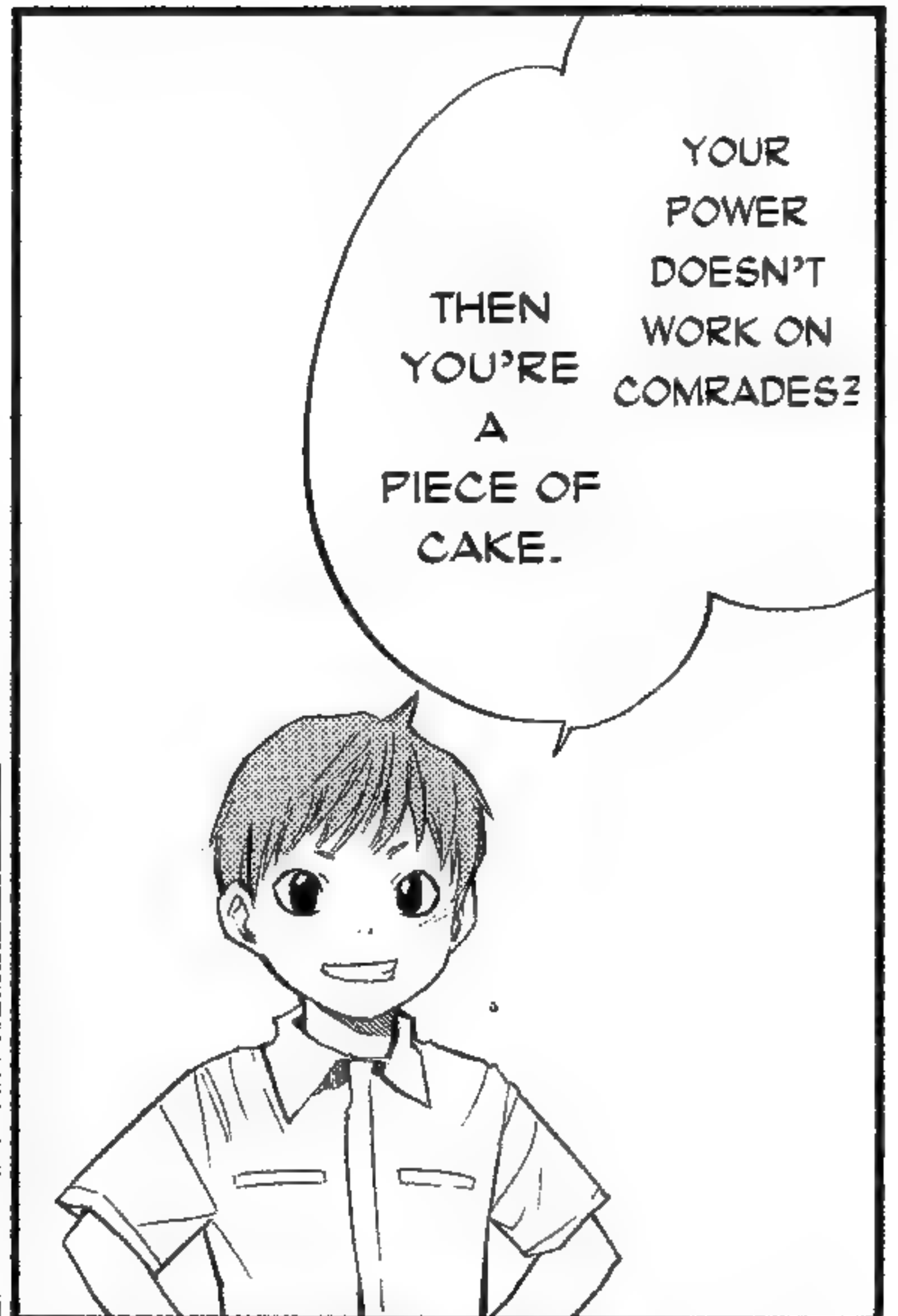
SO YOU
GUYS CAN
NEVER
SEE IT,
THOUGH.

ONLY
THOSE
WHO MAKE
A PROMISE
CAN SEE
IT.

WOW!
Ohh

NOT
REALLY.

I HAVE
AN ULTIMATE
BACKUP.





GRIT



HMPH.

RIGHTEOUS
BASTARD.



YOU
CAN'T
TOUCH
HIM!

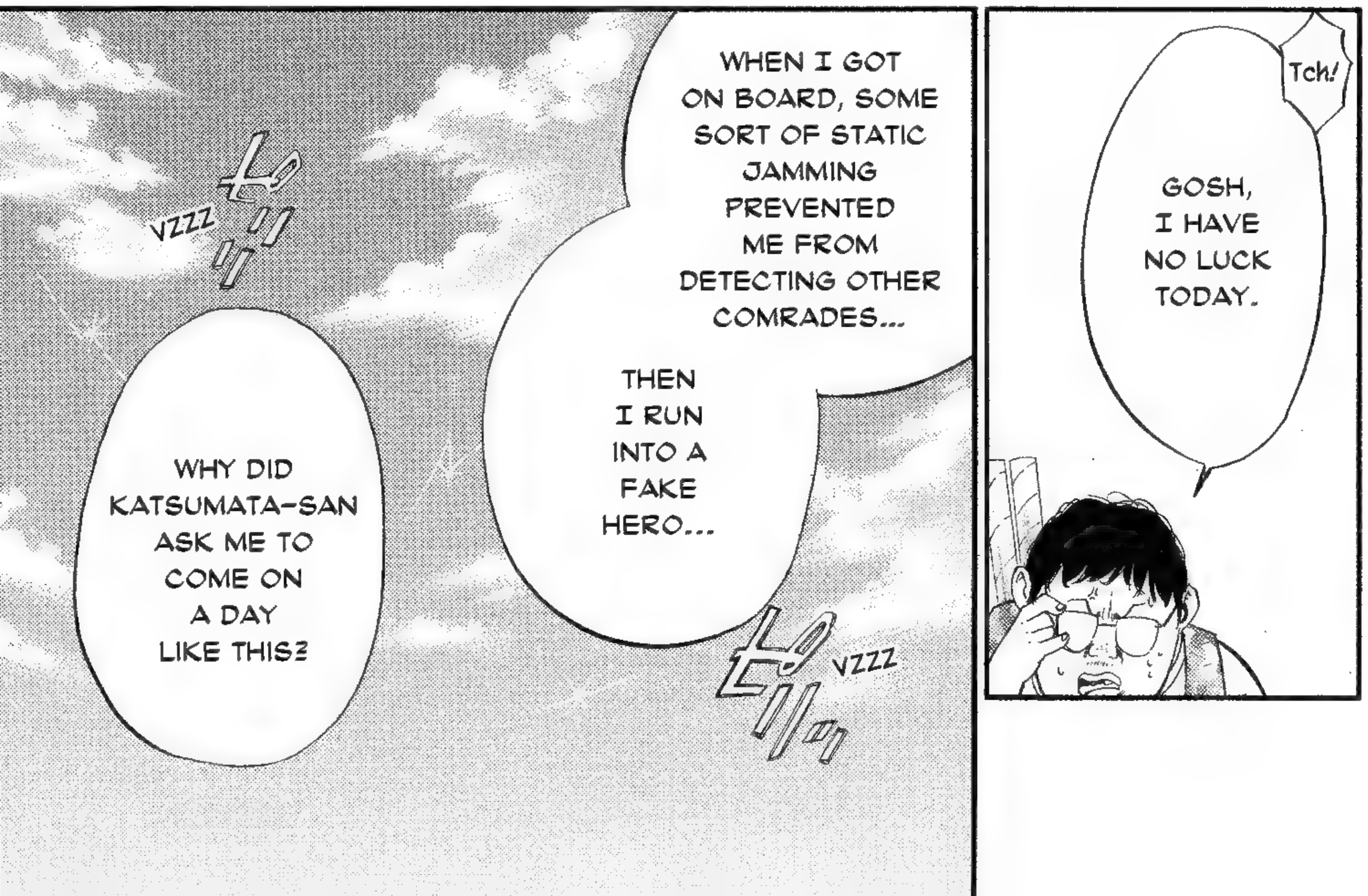
S-SO,
NAMI!



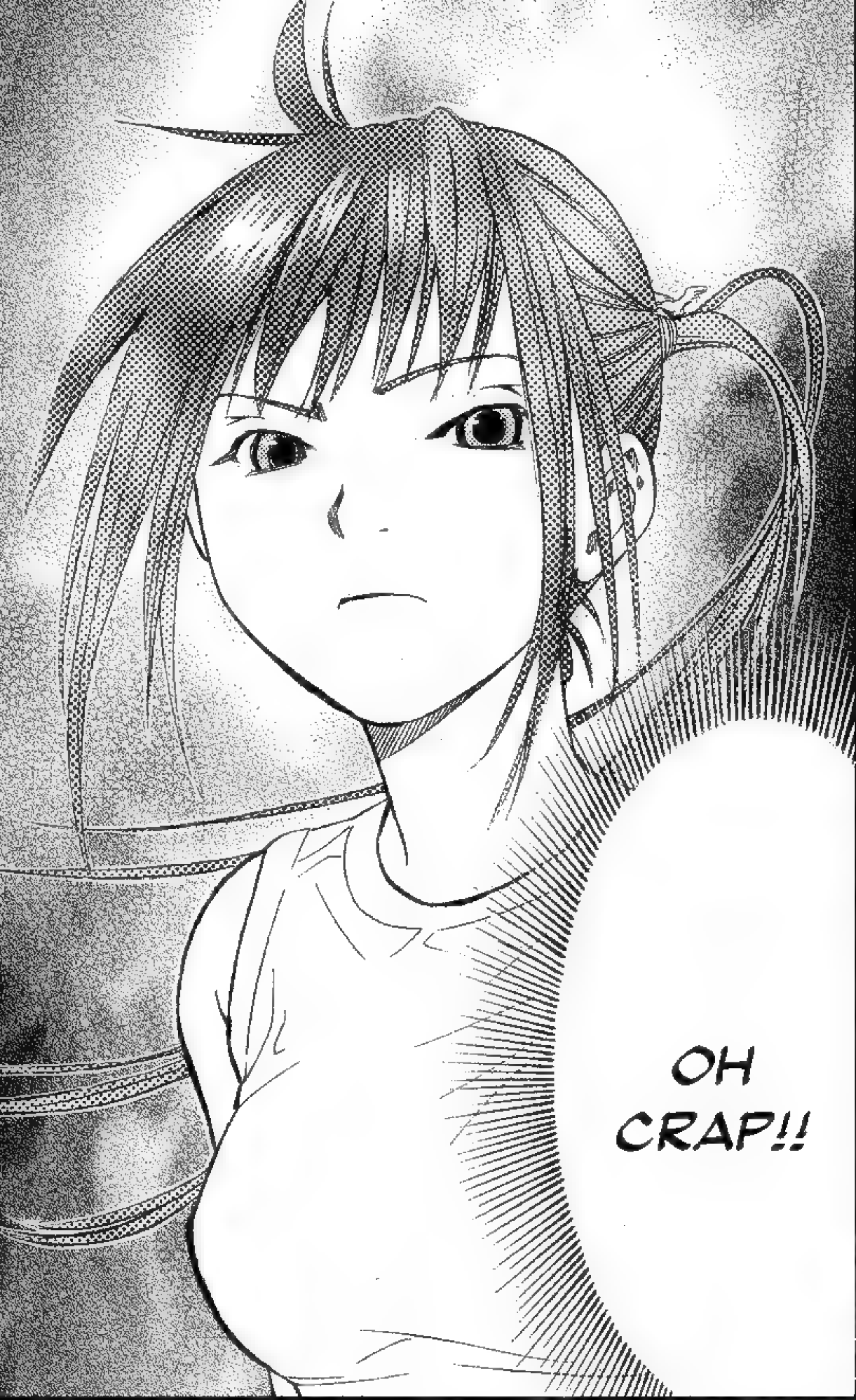
TCH!



I
WON'T
LET
HER
DIE!!







OH
CRAP!!

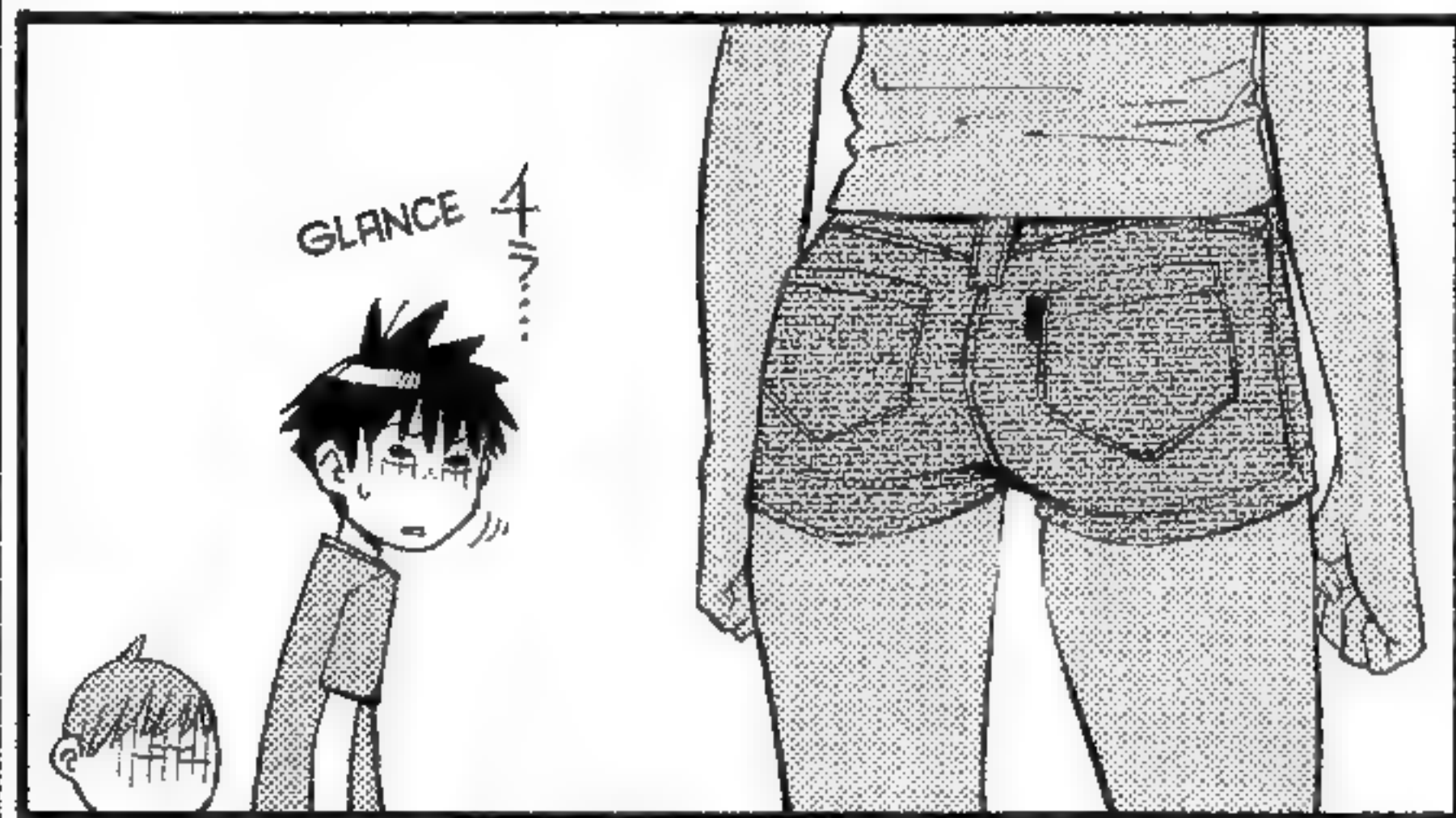


S-
STUPID!!

TAISUKE
!



GLANCE 4



WELL, HE
COULDN'T
IGNORE A
TALENTED
COMRADE
LIKE ME, YOU
KNOW.

He
personally
head-
hunted
me.

HUH? SO
YOU GUYS
KNOW
KATSUMATA-
SAN?

OHH



WE WERE
SUPPOSED
TO HIDE
FROM NAMI

Oh man,
she's
looking
this way.
Dude...

THAT WE
DIDN'T KNOW
KATSUMATA'S
LOCATION!!



WHERE IS
KATSUMATA?!
ANSWER ME!!

WHO
CARES
ABOUT
THAT!!



YOU'RE
NAMI,
RIGHT?

TSK
♥



I'LL
TAKE ONLY
NAMI-CHAN
TO SEE
KATSUMATA.



ACRO'S...

HEART...
Z



NAMI-CHAN,
YOU'RE PRETTY
STRONG, SO
KATSUMATA-SAN
WILL PROBABLY
WELCOME YOUR
SKILLS.

HE SAID THAT
HE NEEDED
A LOT OF
HELP TO FIND
"ACRO'S
HEART."



WHAAT
!Z

I'm
useful,
dammit
!!

I get
that
of-
ten..

SHOCK

TICKED
OFF

BUT NOT
YOU TWO
JERKS,
SINCE
YOU'RE
USELESS.



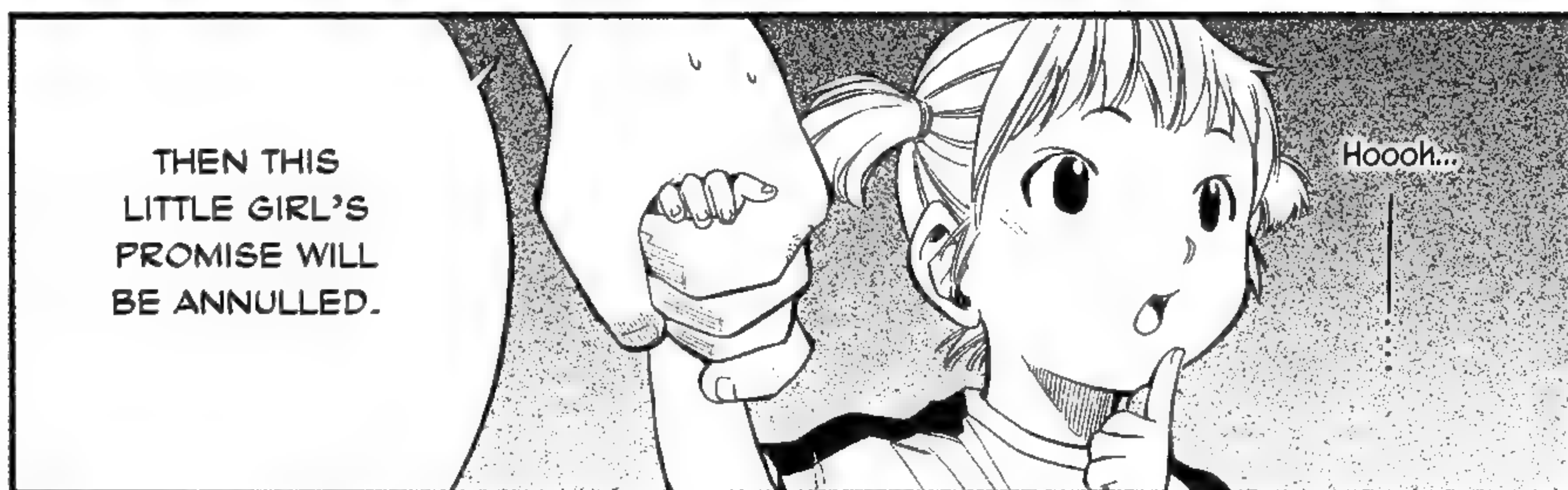
THEN
HOW
ABOUT
THIS



AH!



IF YOU KILL
THE TWO
BOYS, THEN
YOU CAN
JOIN US,
NAMI-CHAN.



THEN THIS
LITTLE GIRL'S
PROMISE WILL
BE ANNULLED.

Hoooh...



ATTENTION
ALL
PASSENGERS,

FERRY
21 WILL
ARRIVE IN
HAKODATE
AT 18:00,
AS
SCHEDULED.

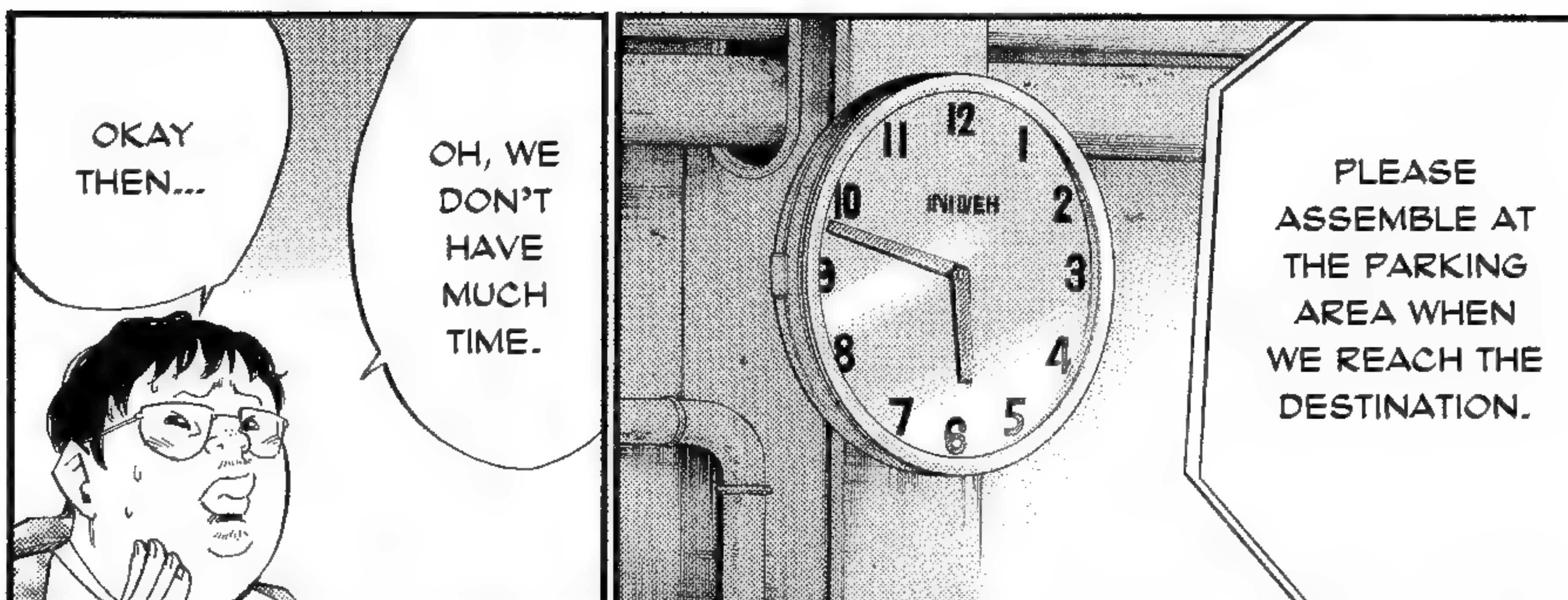
THOSE
PASSENGERS
WITH
VEHICLES
WILL
DISEMBARK
FIRST, SO—

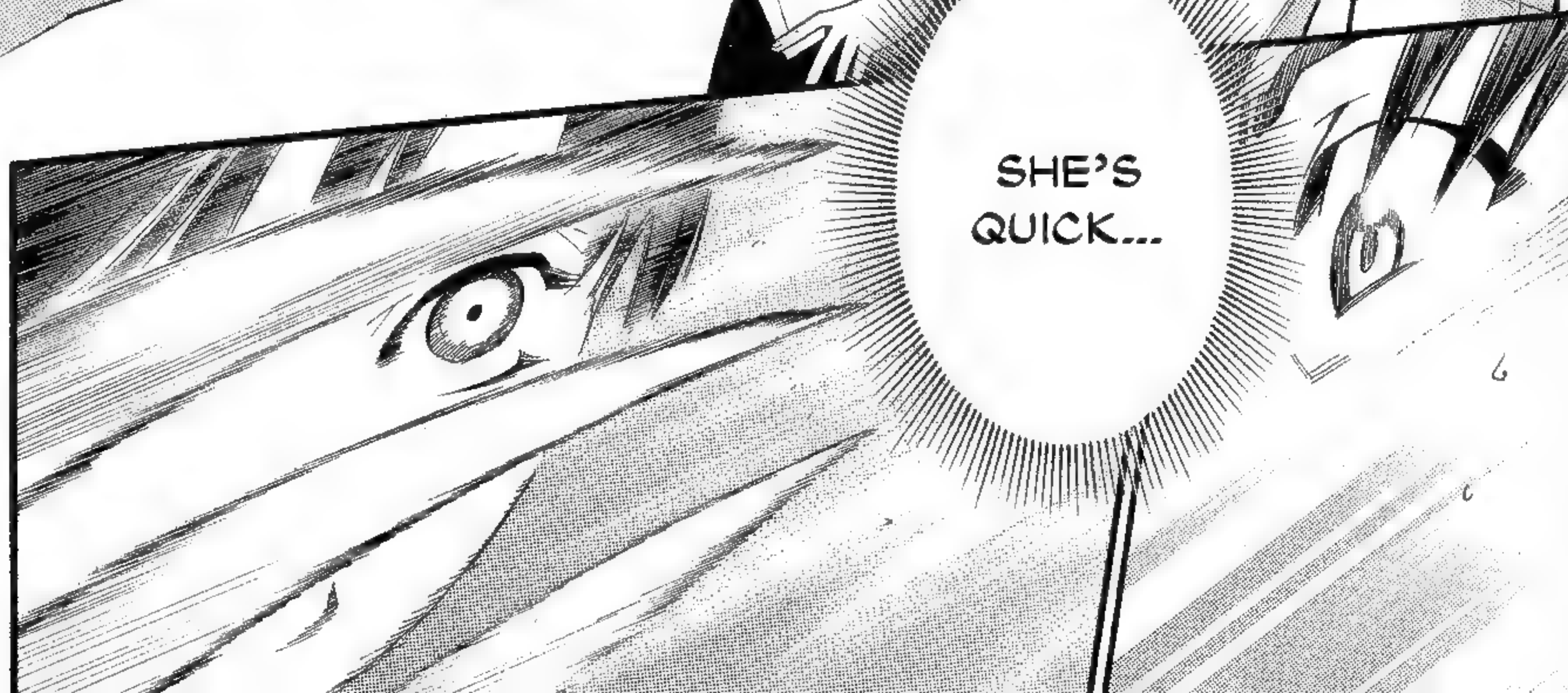


TO
THE
DING
DONG

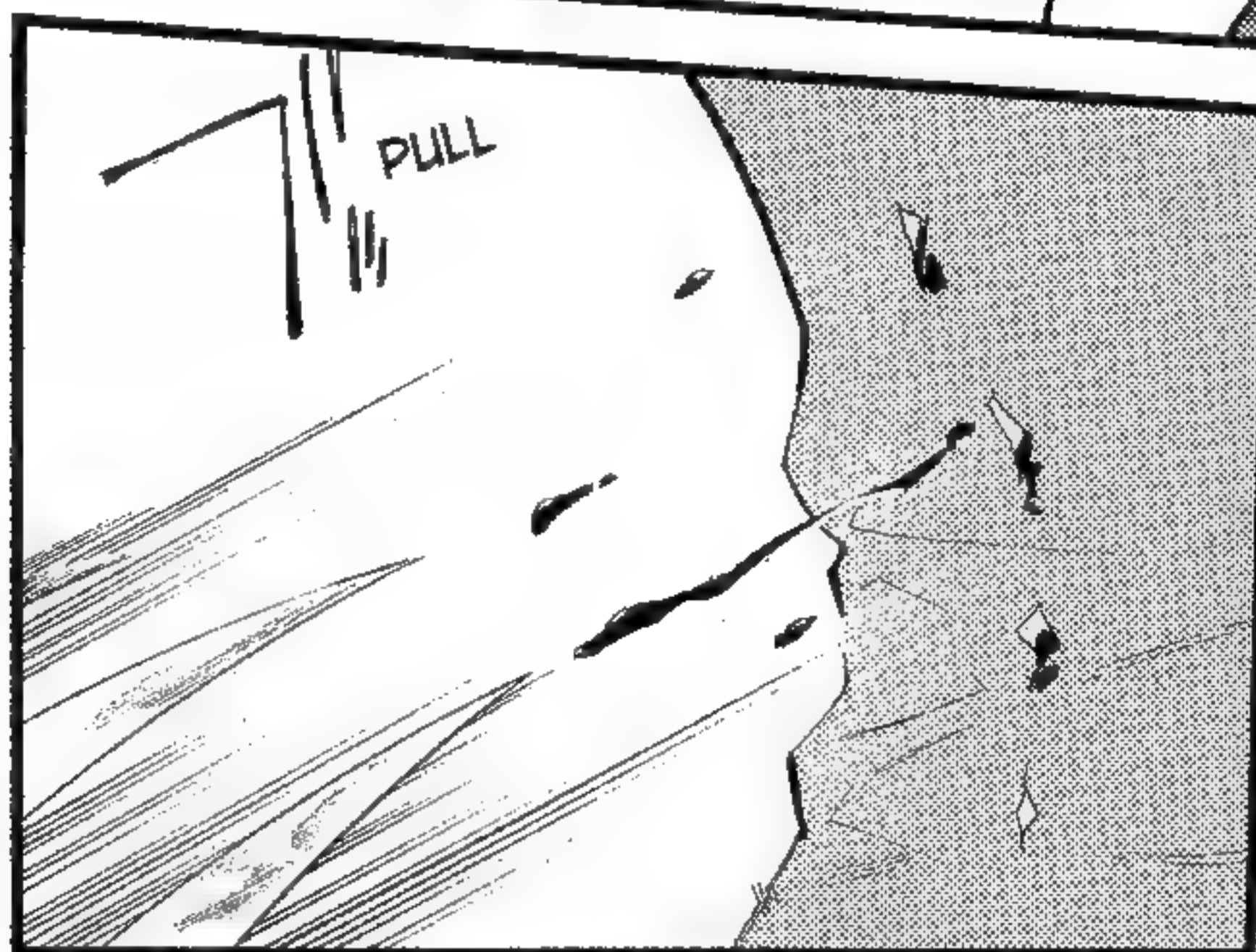


WHAT...





SHE'S
QUICK...

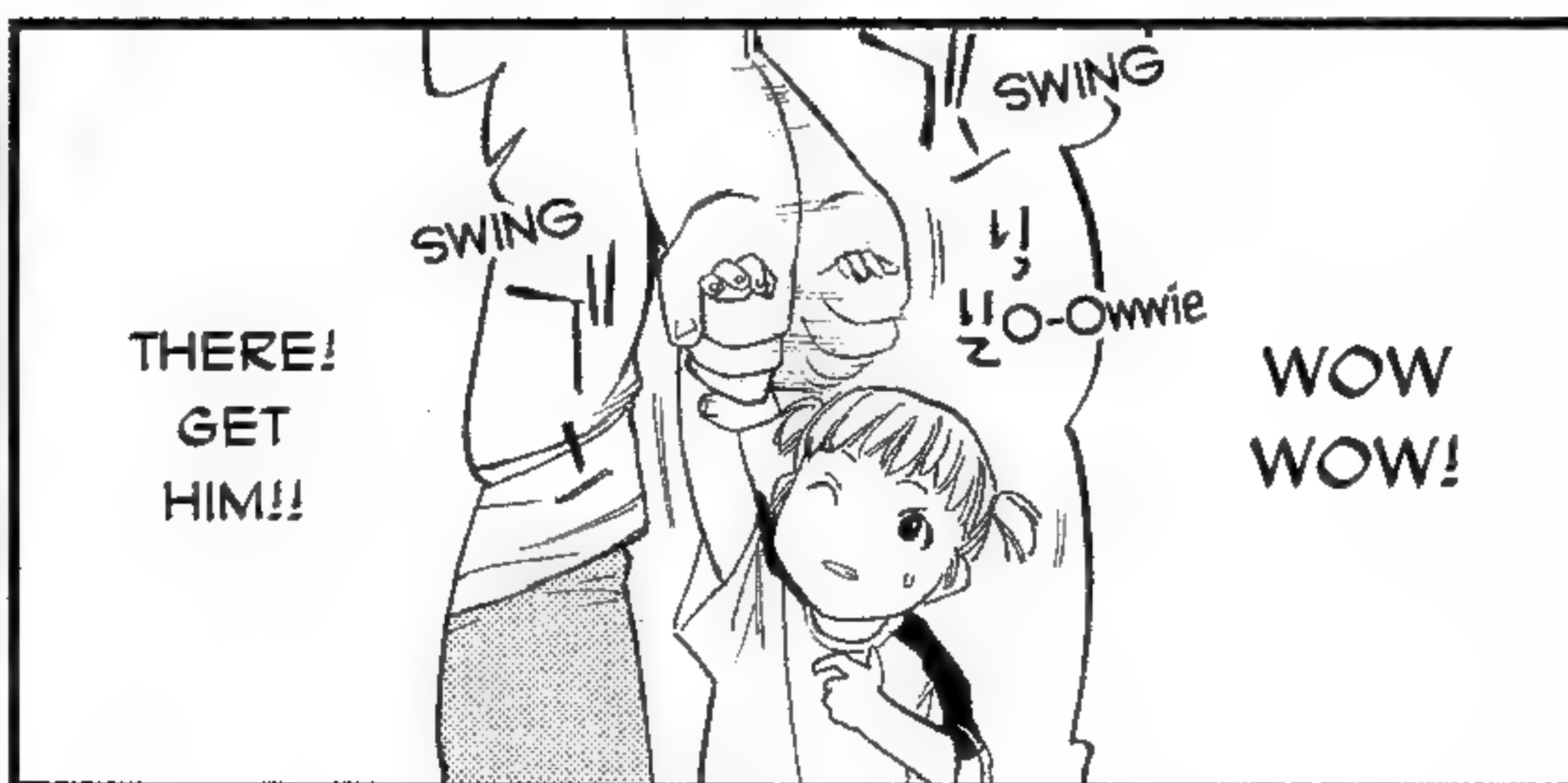


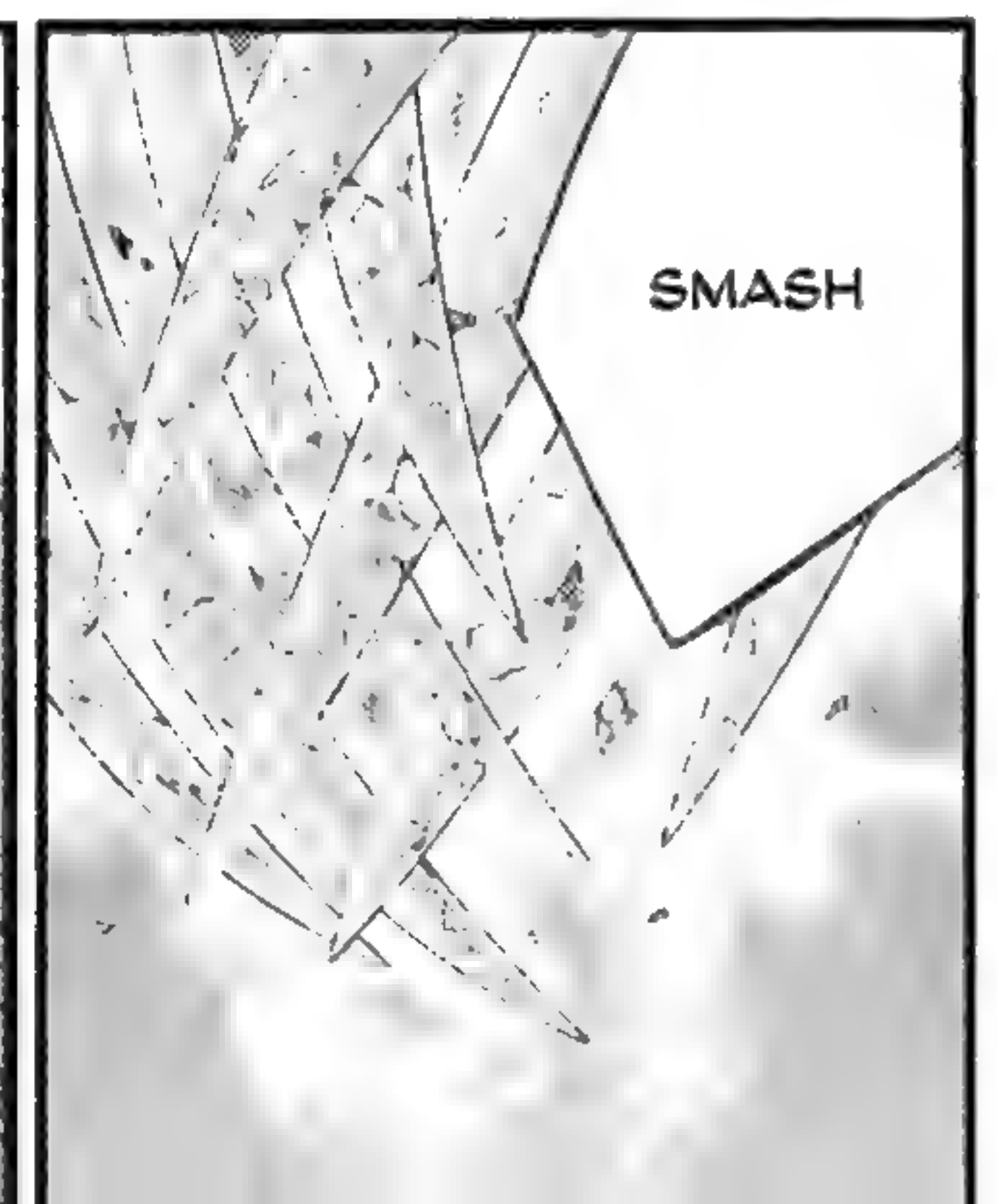
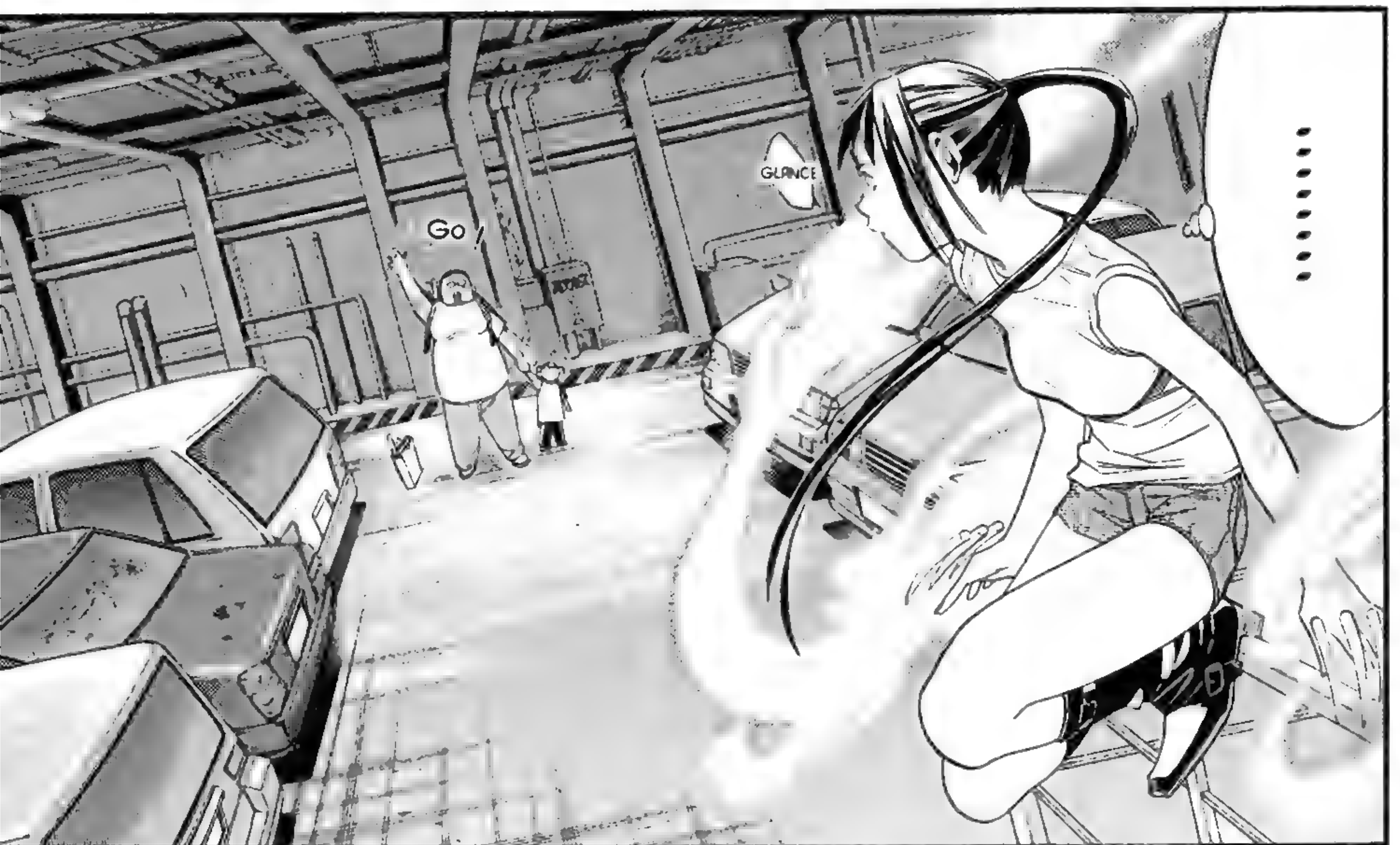














DAMMIT!
I CAN'T
SEE —







TAISUKE!



N...

NO...



SKRASHH

WHOA!



CONCENTRATE
ON HIM,
YUTA!!



CON-
CEN-
TRATE...



GRIP

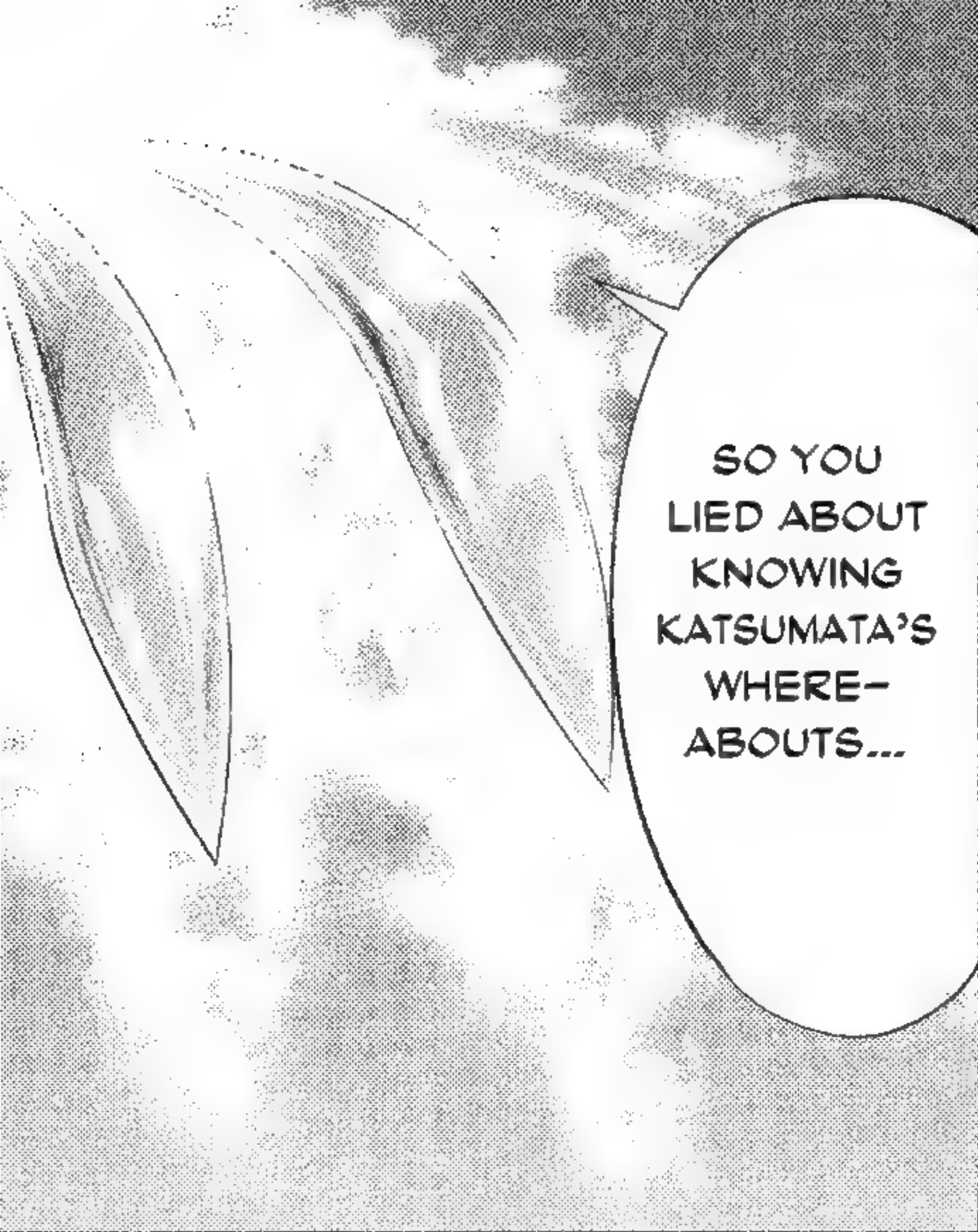
I
KNOW,
BUT...



CHUCKLE

HE REALLY
ISN'T
USING HIS
POWER!

WHAT
A
FOOL.



SO YOU
LIED ABOUT
KNOWING
KATSUMATA'S
WHERE-
ABOUTS...



POINT

!



!!



OKAY
NAMI-CHAN,
KILL HIM!

HEHEH,
YOU'RE
DONE, BIG
HERO!

GRUNT



YOU JUST
DELAYED
YOUR
DEATH BY
A DAY.



CAN'T
YOU
TELL?



POINK



SHE'S
GONNA
DIE!!

Y-YEAH,
IF I LET
GO OF HER
HAND...



NAMI...
DON'T...

IF YOU
TOUCH
HIM...

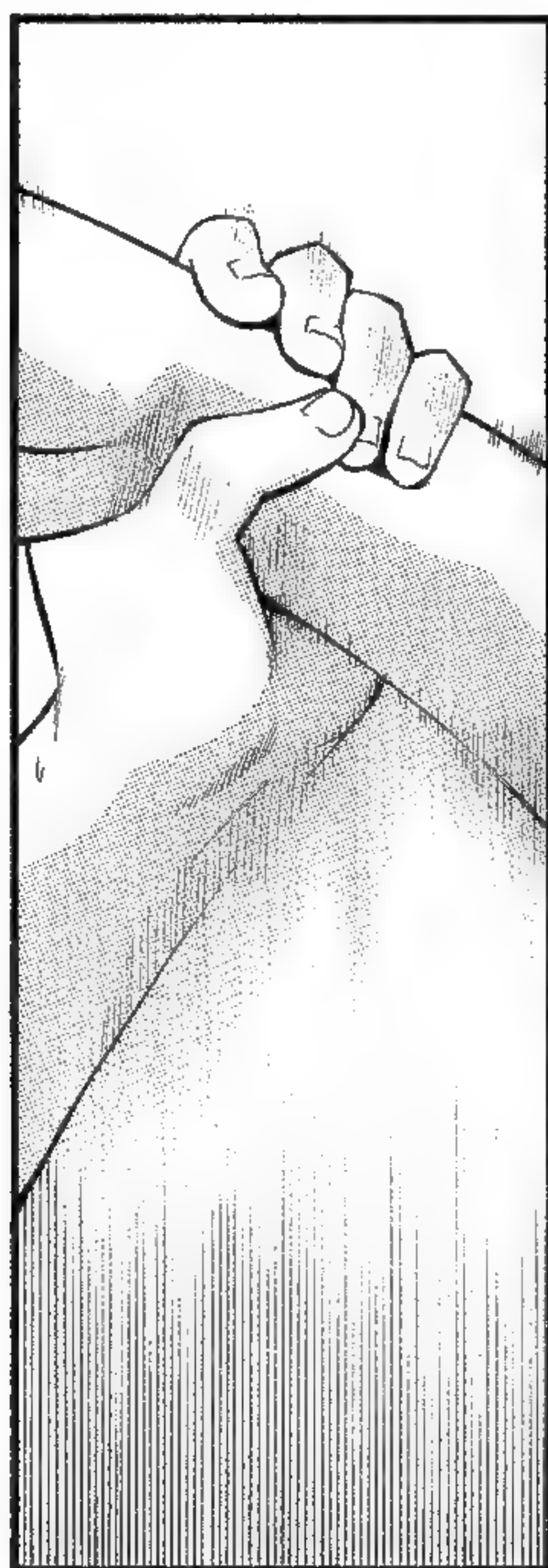


WH-
WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING?!



EH...
?

BUHI!?





HOW CAN
YOU SAVE
PEOPLE...

IF YOU
CAN'T
EVEN
SAVE A
PERSON
IN FRONT
OF YOU!?



A-
ARE YOU
SERIOUS?

YOU'RE
GOING
TO LET
HER
DIE?!



WHY
CAN'T
YOU
UNDER-
STAND?



YOU
SAW A
COMRADE
KILL YOUR
BROTHER
IN FRONT
OF YOU...

I
WILL
AVENGE
MY
BROTHER'S
DEATH
!!



THEN YOU'RE
JUST LIKE
THE GIRL
WHO KILLED
YOUR
BROTHER!!

IF YOU
DO
THAT...



I'M
DIFFER-

YOU'RE
NO
DIFFER-
ENT!!



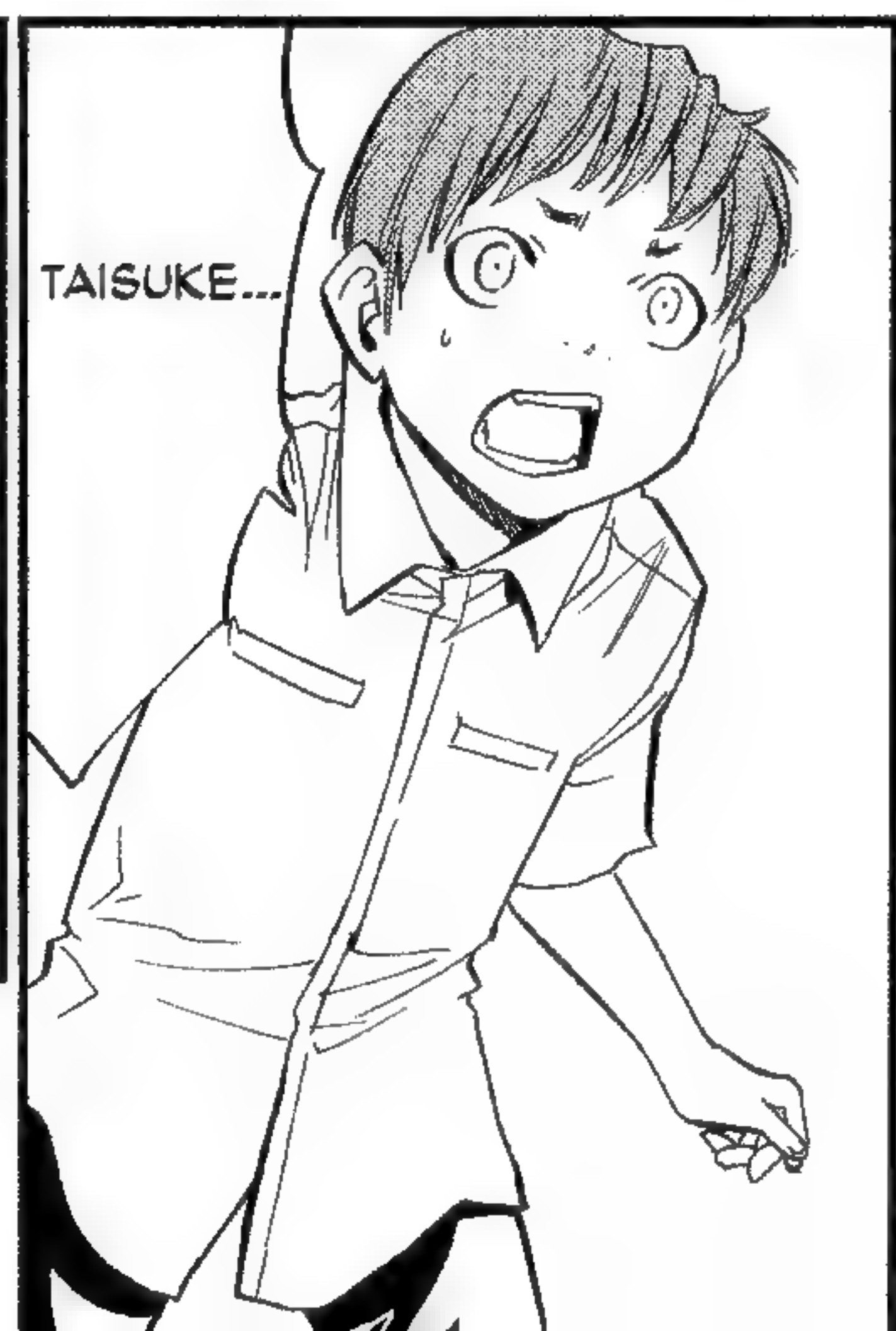
WOOOSH

I AM
NOT LIKE
HER!!

**THEN
STOP!!**









WHISPER

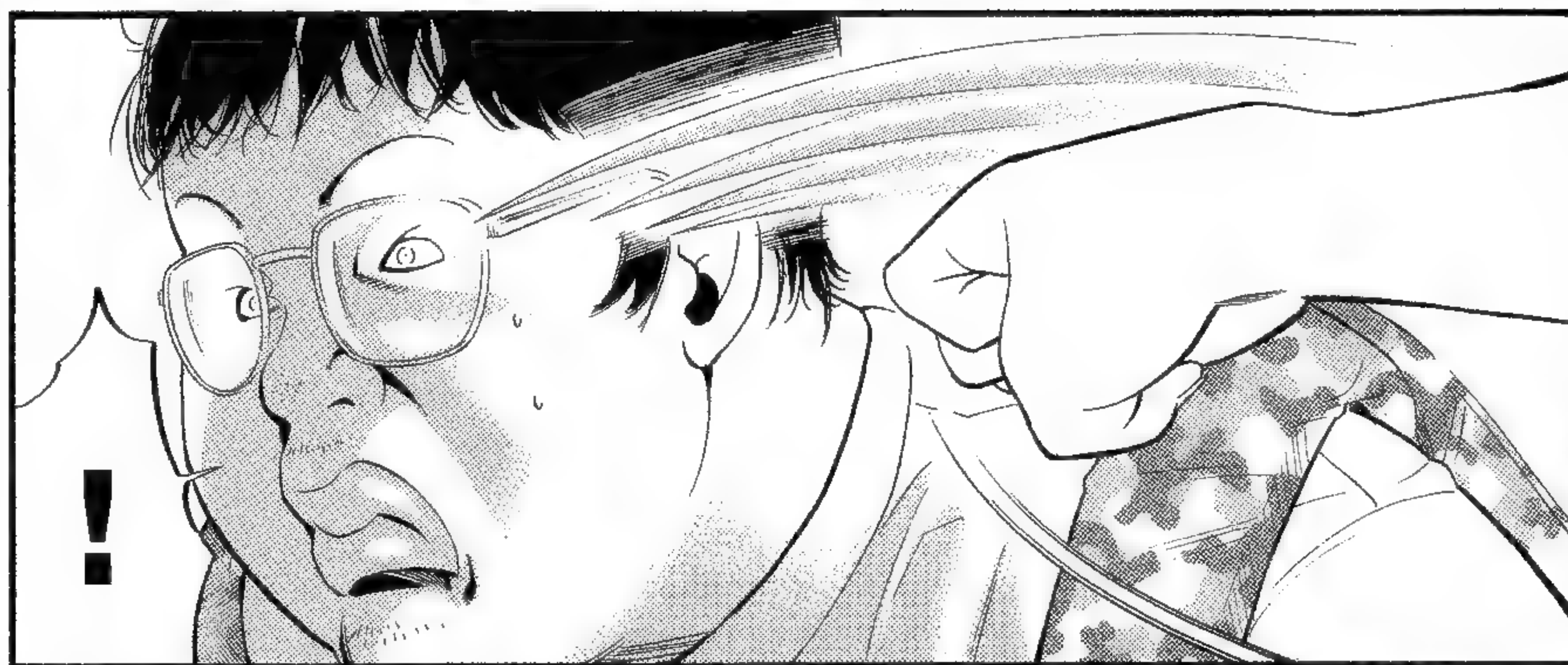
MOMMY!!

HUSH!
STOP CRYING,
OR ELSE I'LL
LET GO, YOU
LITTLE SNOT!



UWAAAAAH!
NOOOOOO!

GRIN



!



Y-YES WE
ARE! YOU HAVE
POWERS, TOO!
COMRADES
SHOULDN'T
FIGHT EACH
OTHER!

RIGHTZ!
HELP...



NO...



HEH

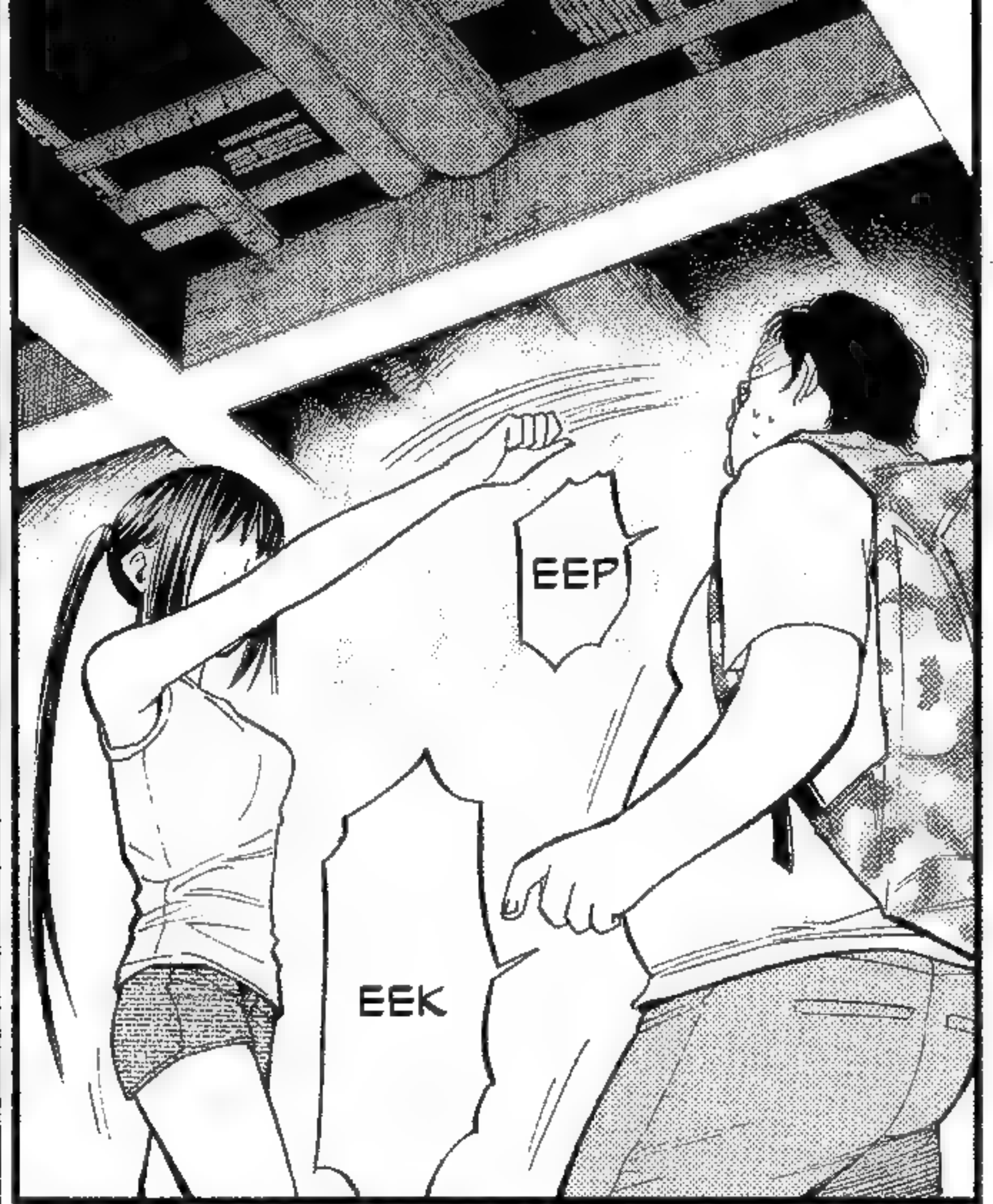
H-
HOLD IT!
AREN'T WE
BOTH
COMRADES!!







THE
GIRL IS
GONE...!?



EEP

EEK



TAP
TAP



...EH?

EH!?

HERO,
TELL HER!
TELL HER
THAT WE'RE
COMRADES!

THIS
GIRL IS
NUTS!!

OH!!
HELP ME,
MY BIG
HERO!!





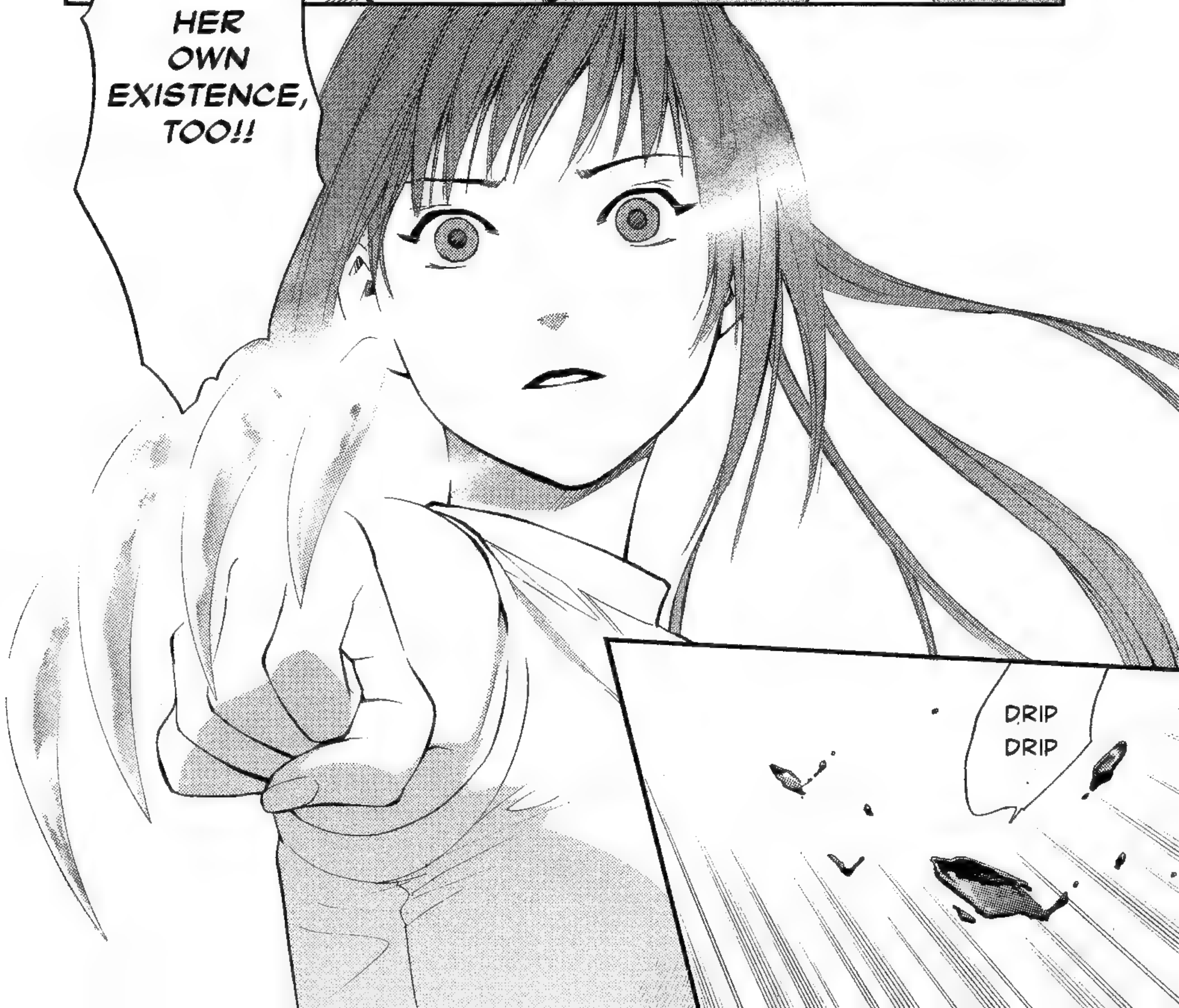
SHE HAS
POWERS,
TOO....

EVEN
THOUGH
SHE CLAIMS
TO BE
DIFFERENT



TELL
HER
THAT
SHE
HAS TO
DENY

HER
OWN
EXISTENCE,
TOO!!



DRIP
DRIP



WHACK

UGH!!



STOP
TALKING
TRASH...

DORK



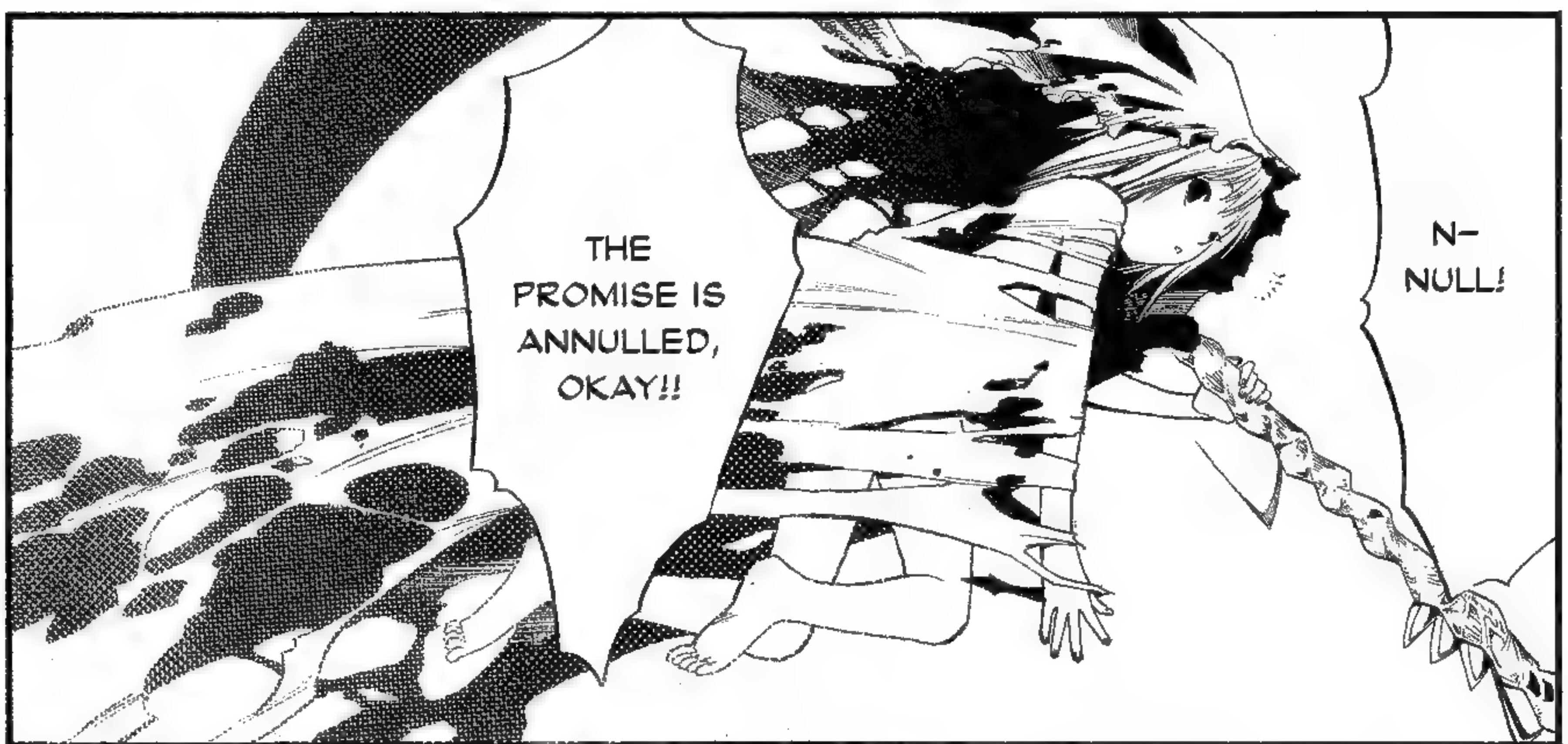
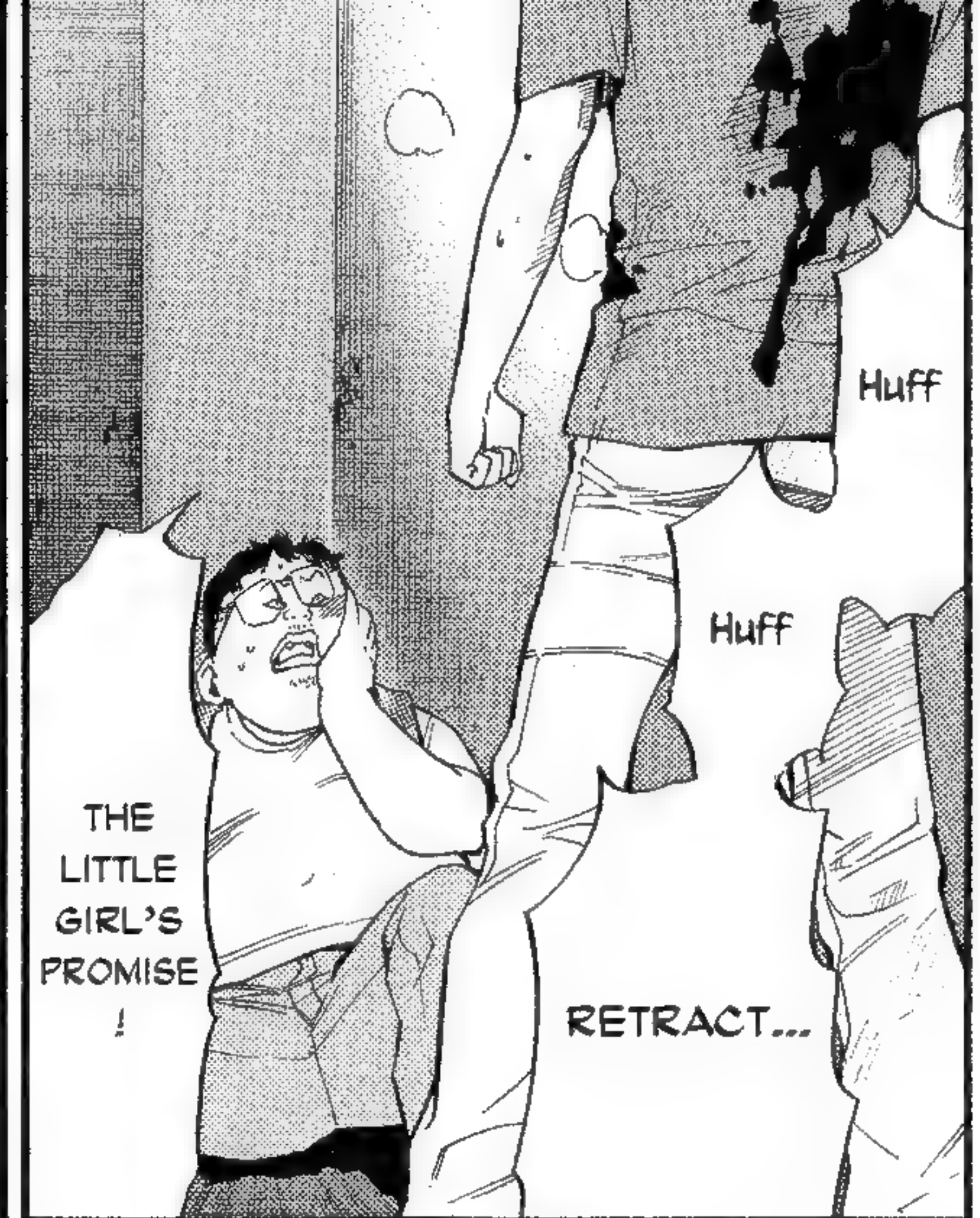
ABAH

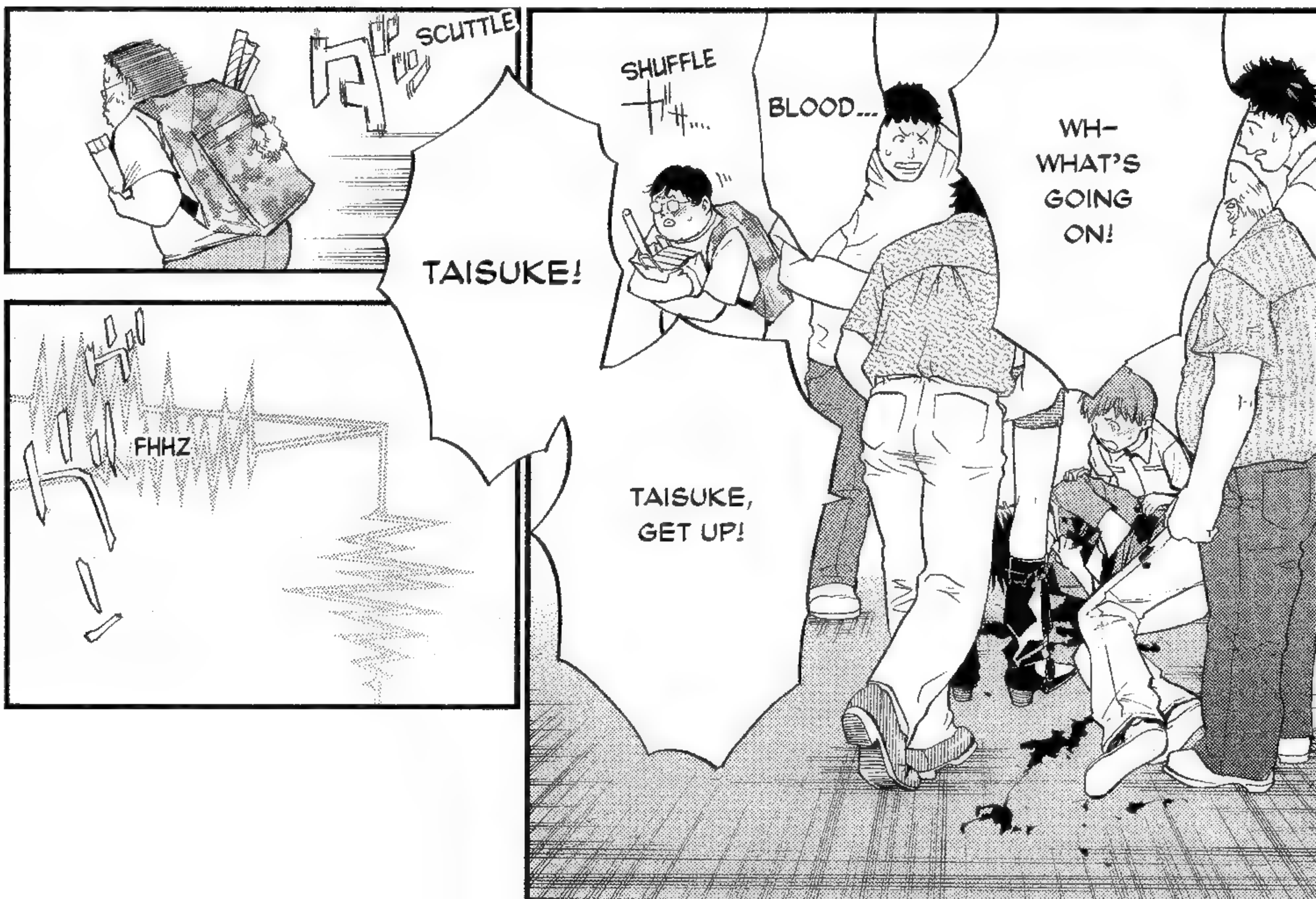
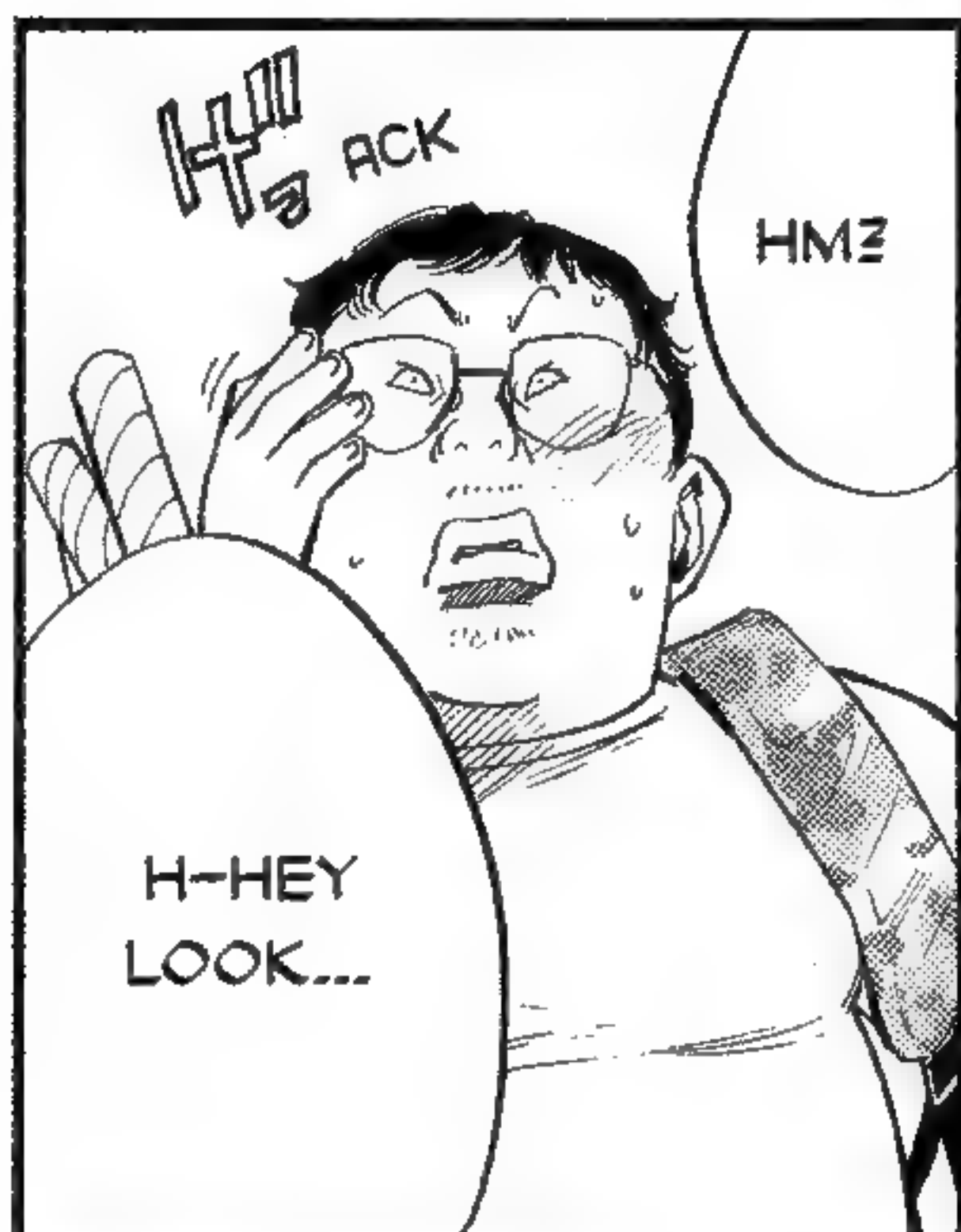


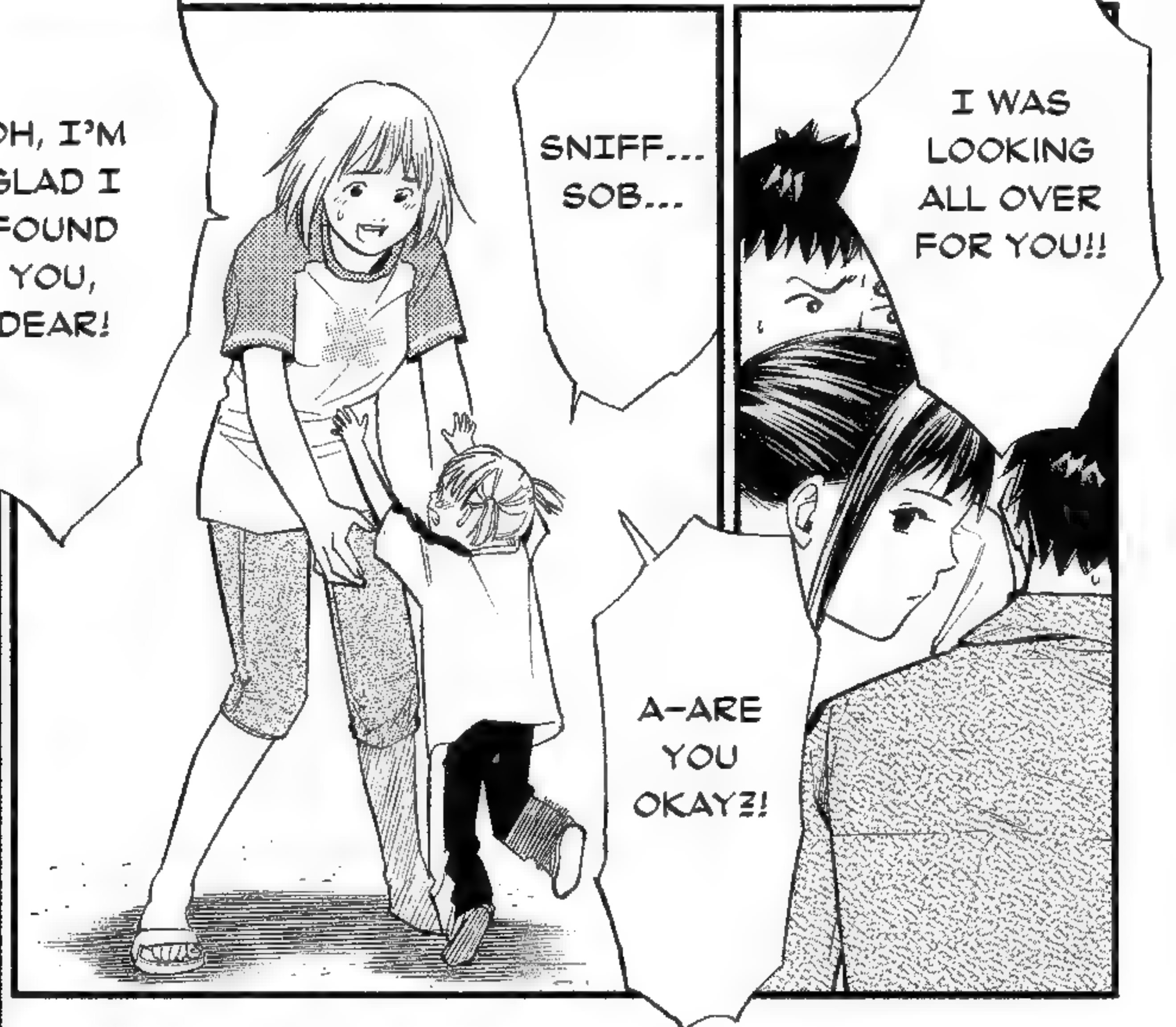
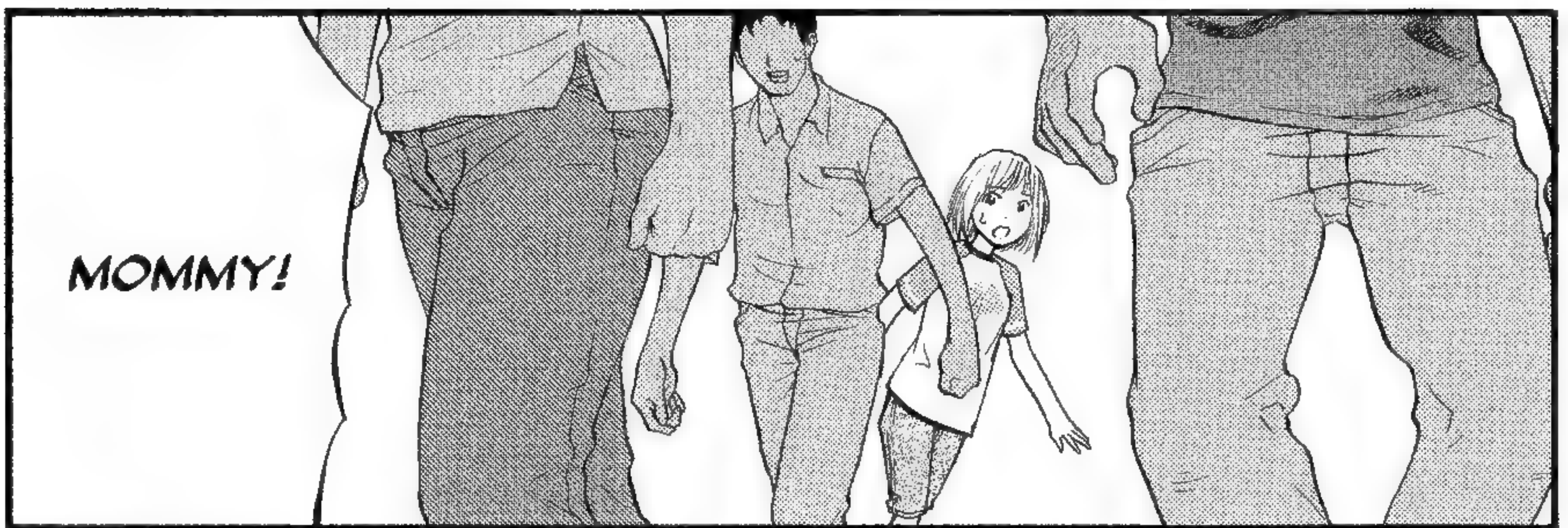
NO ONE
CAN BE
DENIED
THEIR
EXISTENCE!!

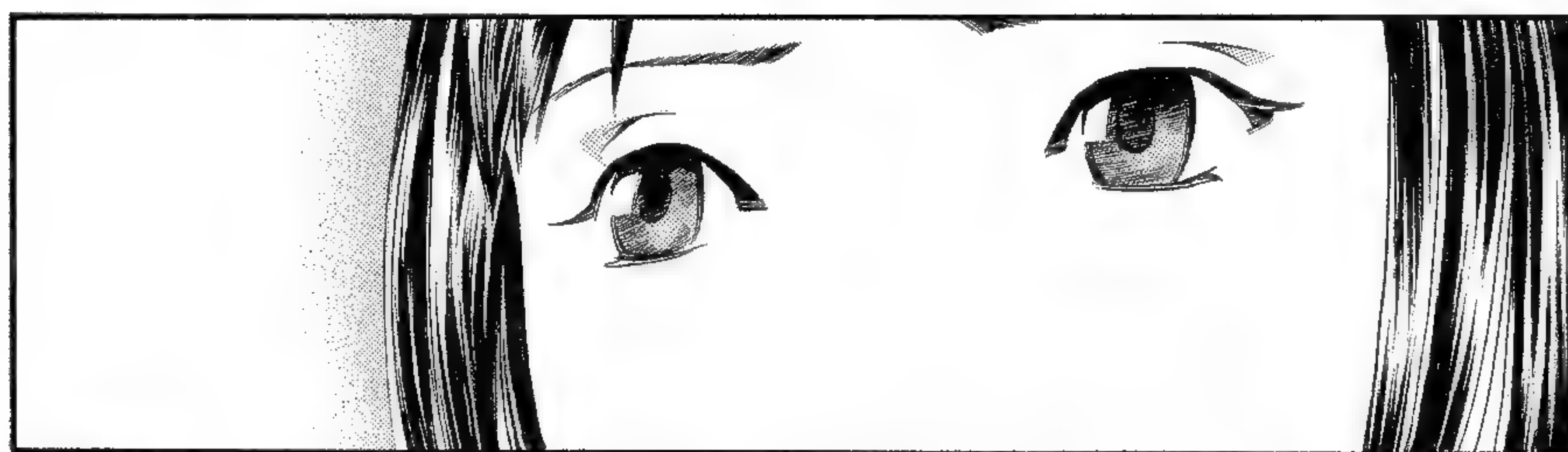


DENY
SOMEONE'S
EXISTENCE!?











I
SHOULD
BE THE
ONE
THANKING
YOU...

....IDIOT.



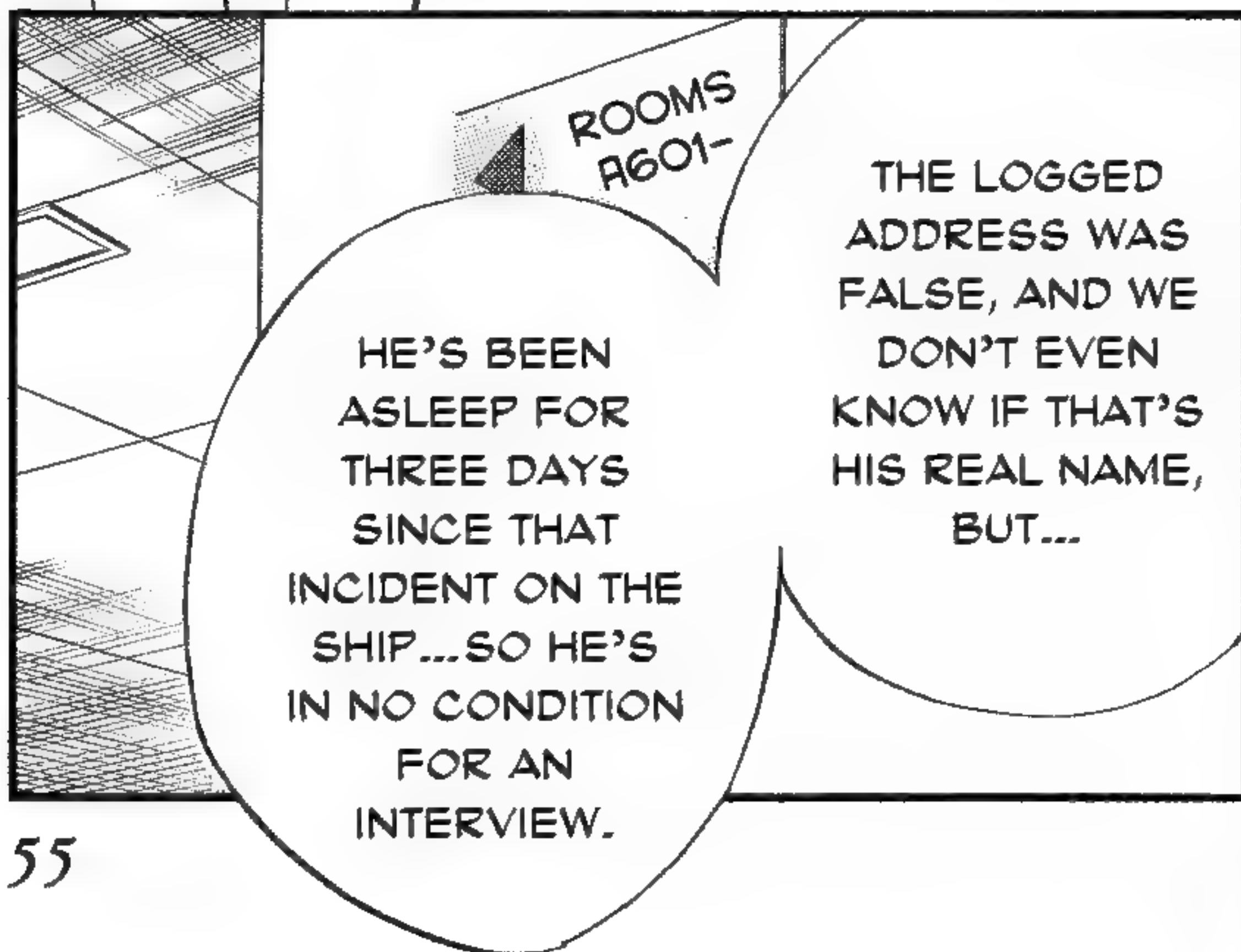
Chapter 16/ End

聖彼得堡的政府



Alive

The Final Evolution



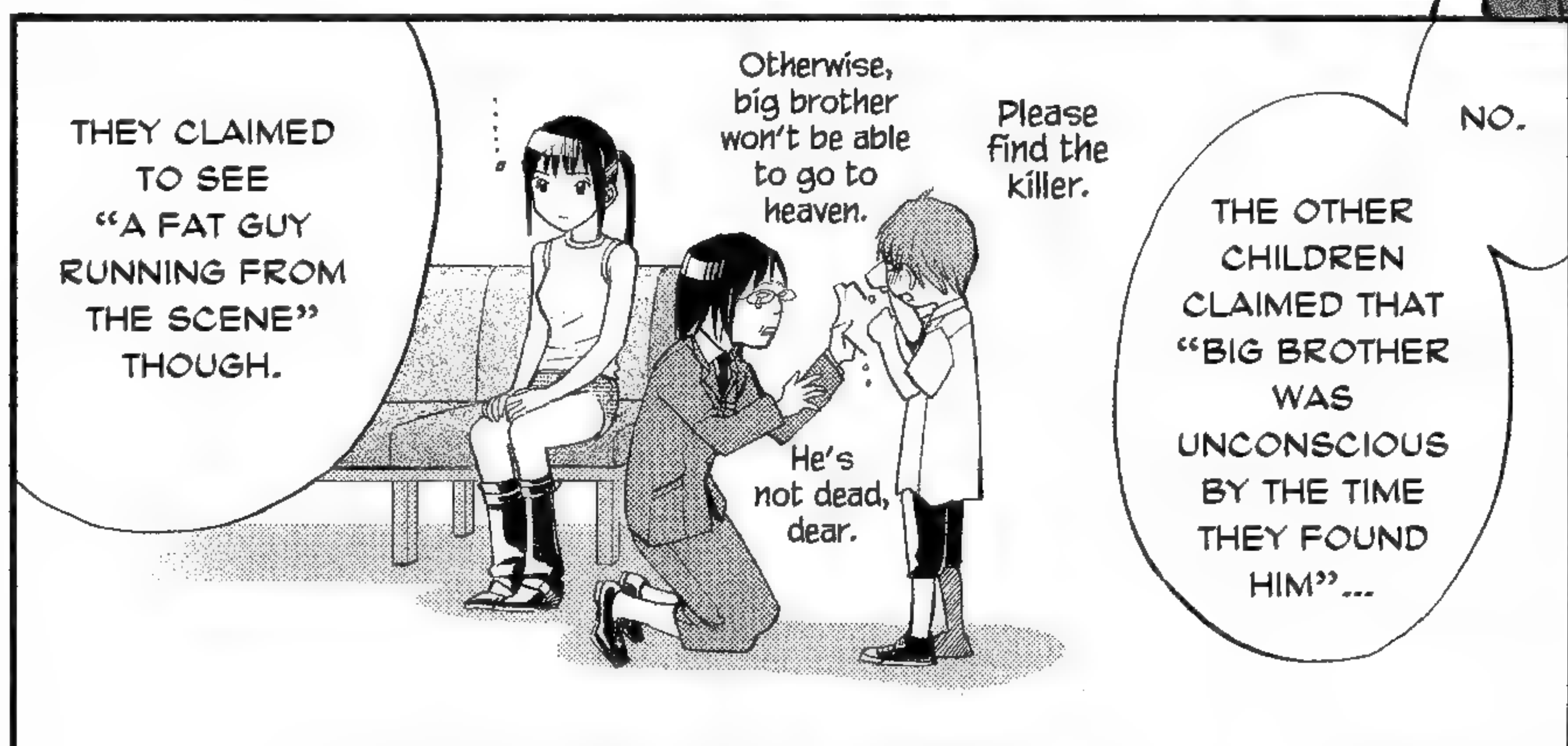


IF THEY
WEREN'T
HEART ATTACKS
BUT IN FACT
MURDERS...

MAYBE HE
WAS ATTACKED
BECAUSE HE
WITNESSED
SOMETHING?

THEY ALL
DIED OF
HEART
ATTACKS.

BUT...THE
FERRY HE RODE
HAD TWO MALE
VICTIMS ON
BOARD, AND
A FEMALE
VICTIM AT
THE
AOMORI
PORT
BEFORE
THEY SAILED...



THEY CLAIMED
TO SEE
"A FAT GUY
RUNNING FROM
THE SCENE"
THOUGH.

Otherwise,
big brother
won't be able
to go to
heaven.

Please
find the
killer.

NO.

THE OTHER
CHILDREN
CLAIMED THAT
"BIG BROTHER
WAS
UNCONSCIOUS
BY THE TIME
THEY FOUND
HIM"...



DRAT! I
ALMOST
WON!

No
means no.



NO
INTERVIEWS.

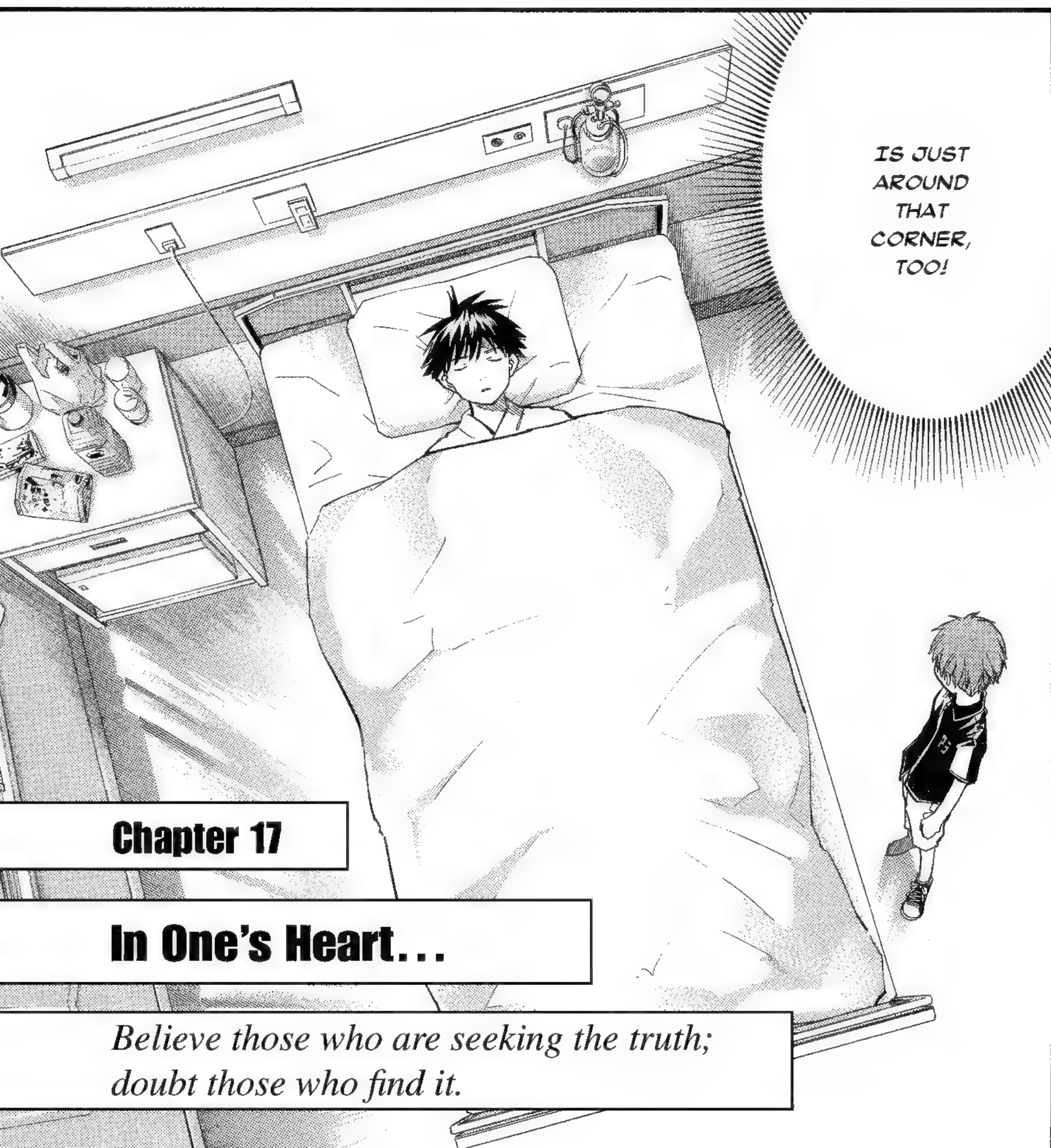
THEY
ARE
MINORS.



THEN
CAN I
INTERVIEW
THE OTHER
CHILDREN?



KANOU
TAISUKE...



IS JUST
AROUND
THAT
CORNER,
TOO!

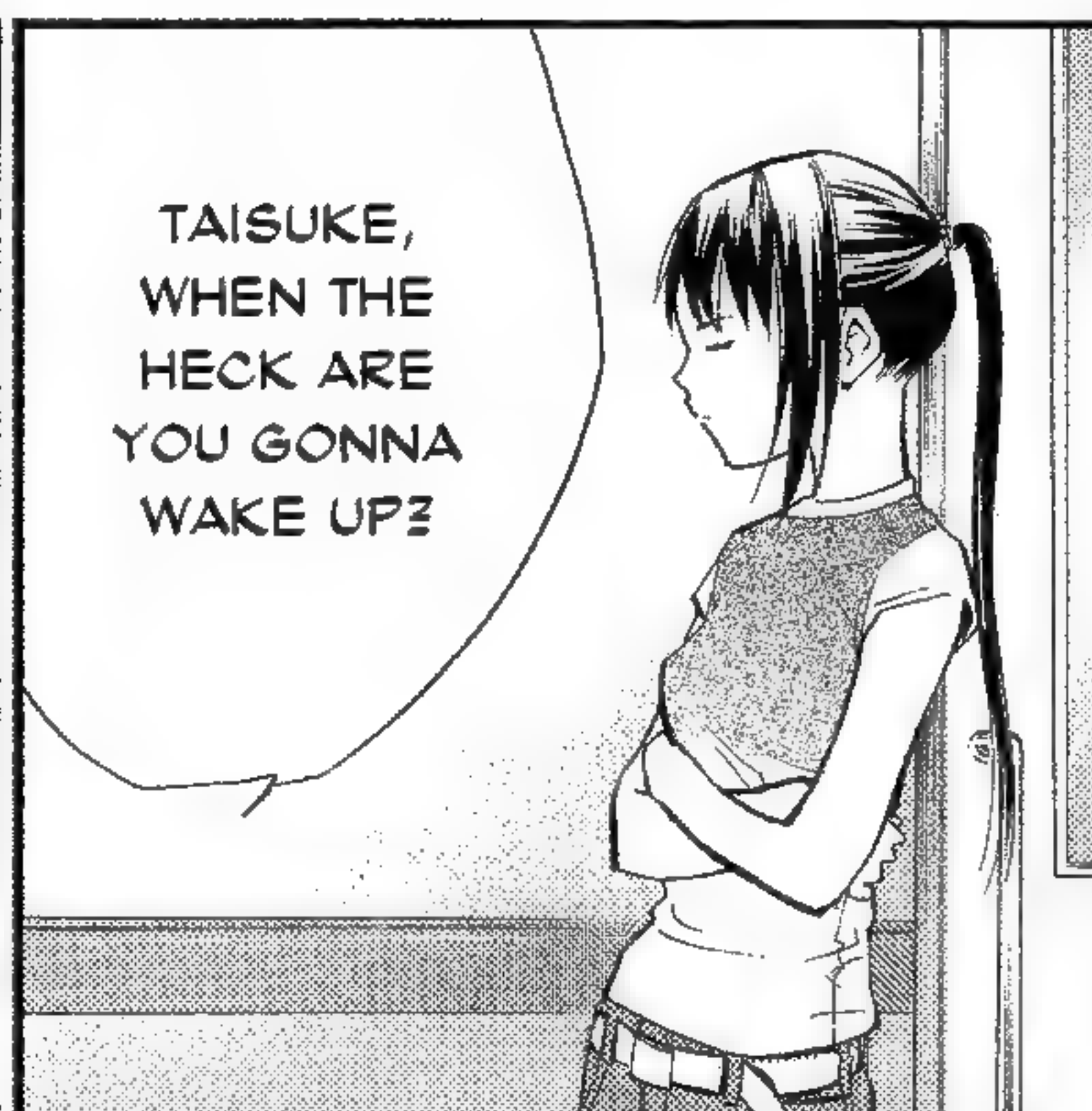
Chapter 17

In One's Heart...

*Believe those who are seeking the truth;
doubt those who find it.*



I'M RUNNING
OUT OF TRICKS
TO KEEP THE
COPS AWAY,
YOU KNOW...
SHEESH.



TAISUKE,
WHEN THE
HECK ARE
YOU GONNA
WAKE UP?



IT'S BEEN
THREE DAYS...
HE'S NOT
HEALING AS
FAST...

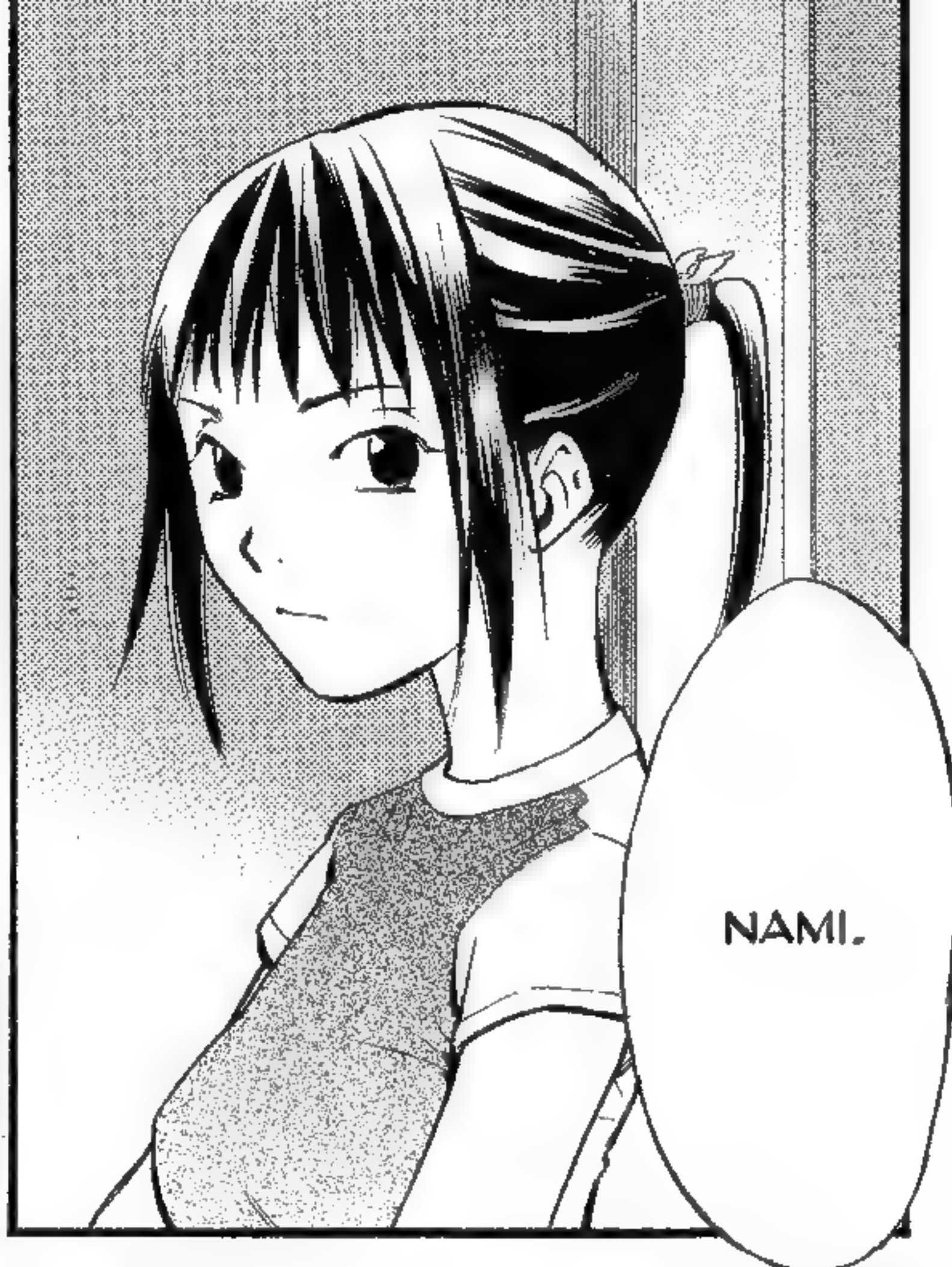




PLEASE
DON'T
BE THAT
VIOLENT
WITH HIM.



TAISUKE IS
PRETTY TOUGH,
SO YOU CAN
PUNCH AND
KICK HIM ALL
YOU WANT.



NAMI.

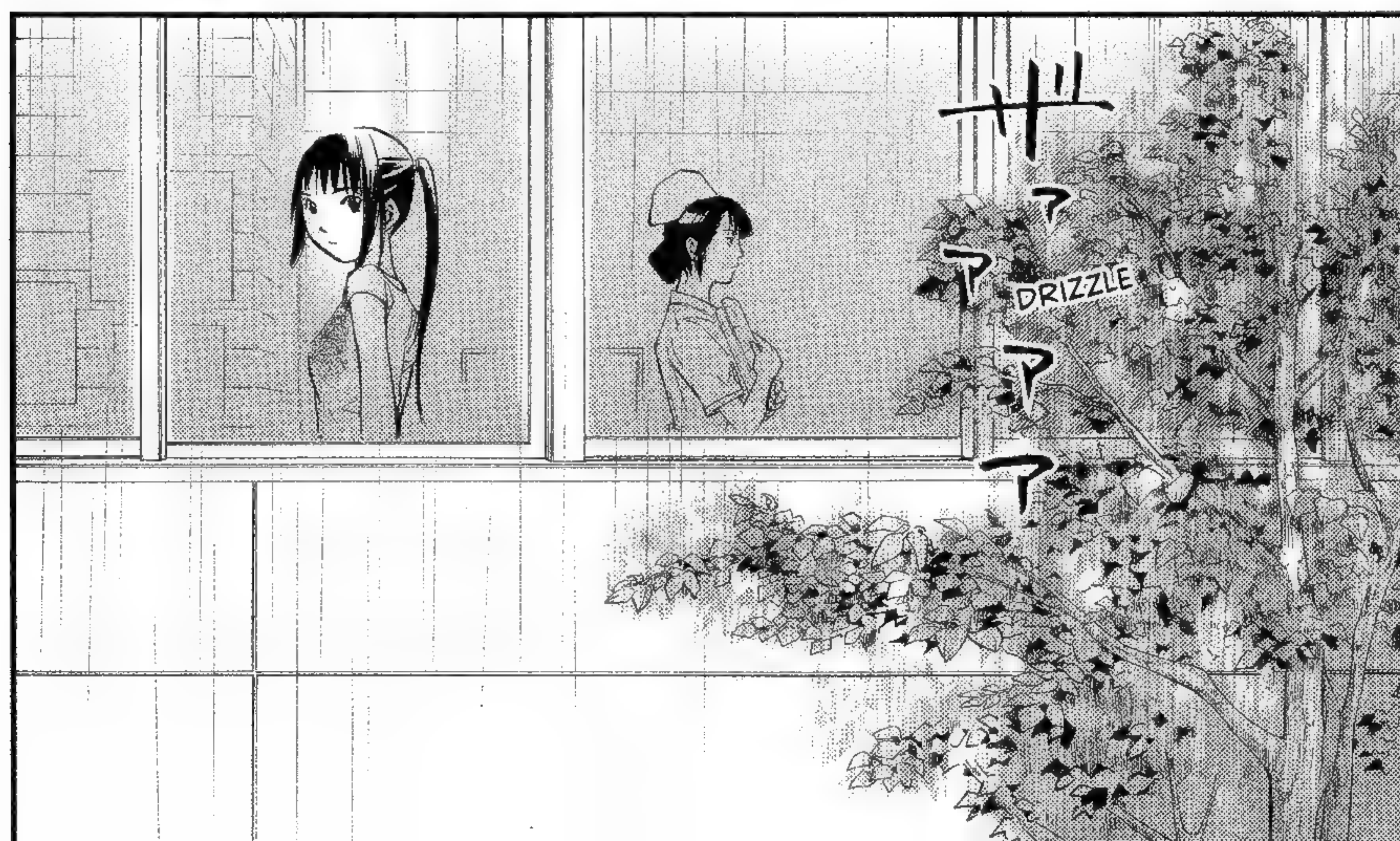


WELL,
IF HE
DIES...

I
WOULDN'T
KNOW
WHAT TO
DO.

SNORE



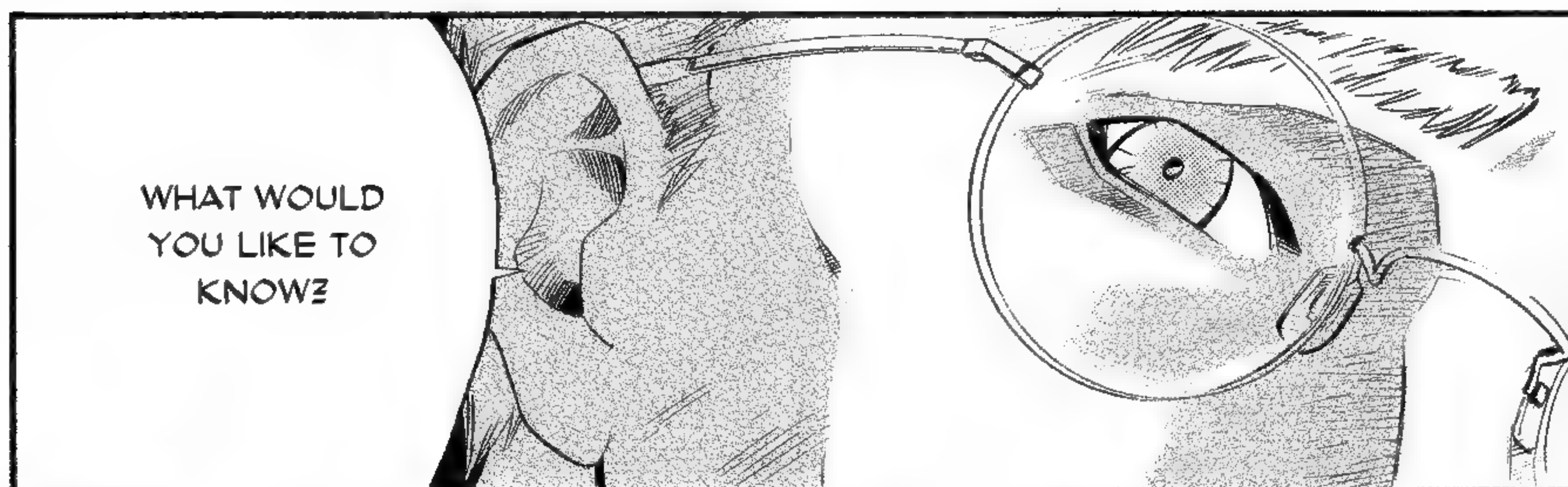
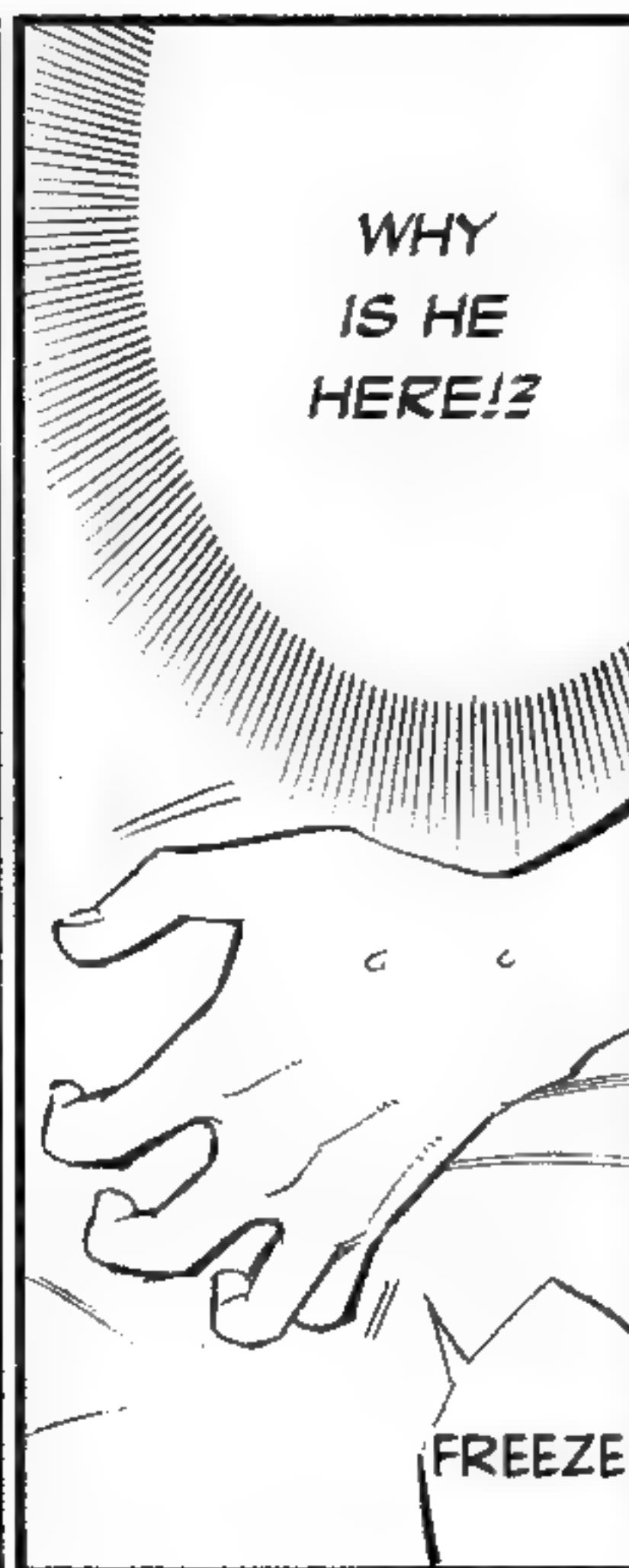












YOU MET
HIM AT THE
FERRY
ALREADY,
CORRECT?

OKADA-
KUN GAVE
ME YOUR
LOCATION.



AFTER ALL,
OCHIAI-SAN
IS
HIROSE-KUN'S
PRECIOUS
TREASURE.

HE'S
TREATING
HER WELL.



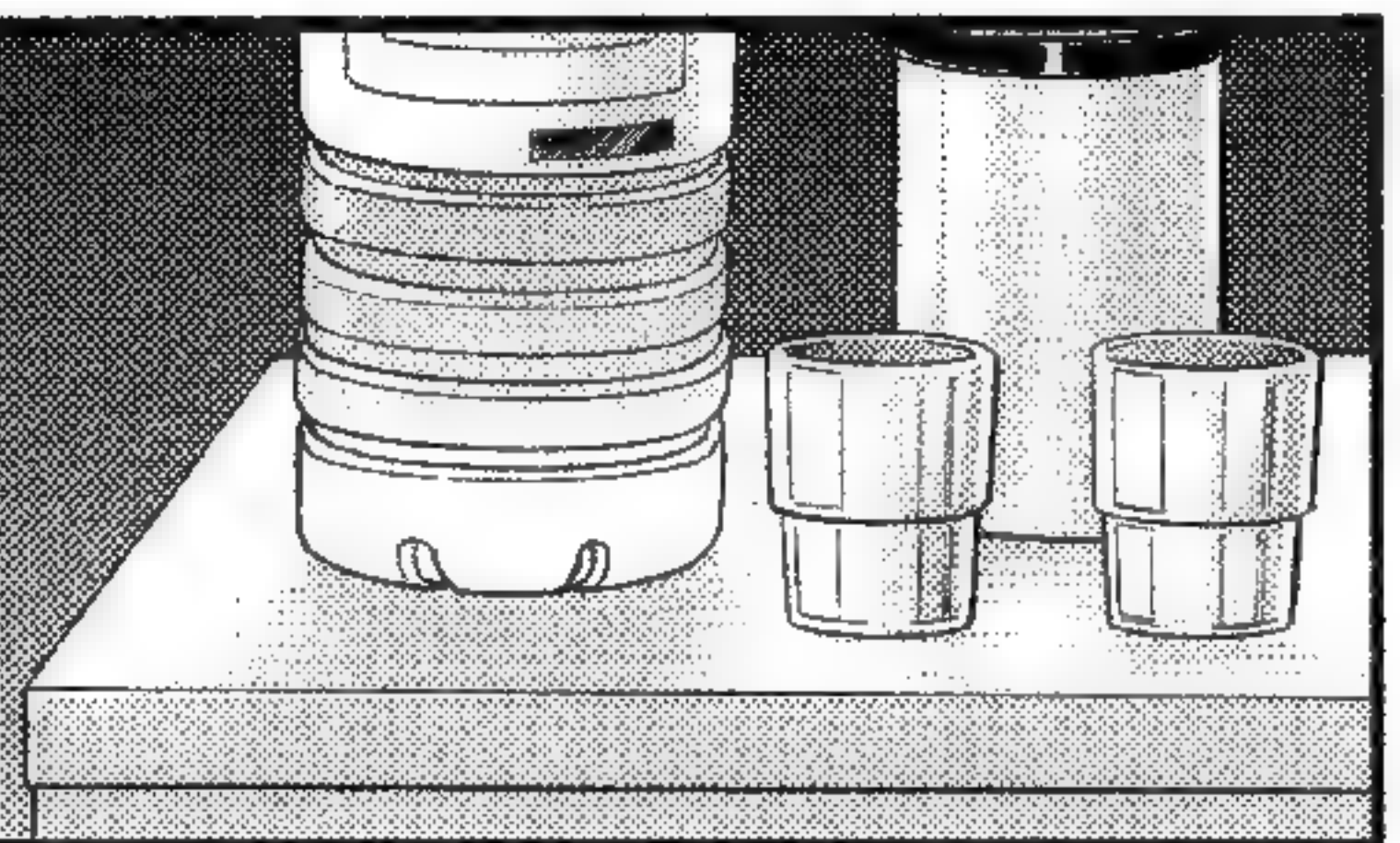
URRRK...



HE WAS ANGRY
ABOUT A FAKE
HERO THAT
PUNCHED HIM
IN THE FACE.



I SUPPOSE
FROM YOUR
PERSPECTIVE...



WE'RE
PROBABLY THE
"BAD GUYS"...








WHO
CONSIDERED
"DEATH"
A GIFT FROM
HEAVEN?

WHAT IF
THERE WERE
THOSE IN THIS
UNIVERSE...



NOBODY
CAN STOP
"THEM."



CRAVING
DEATH...

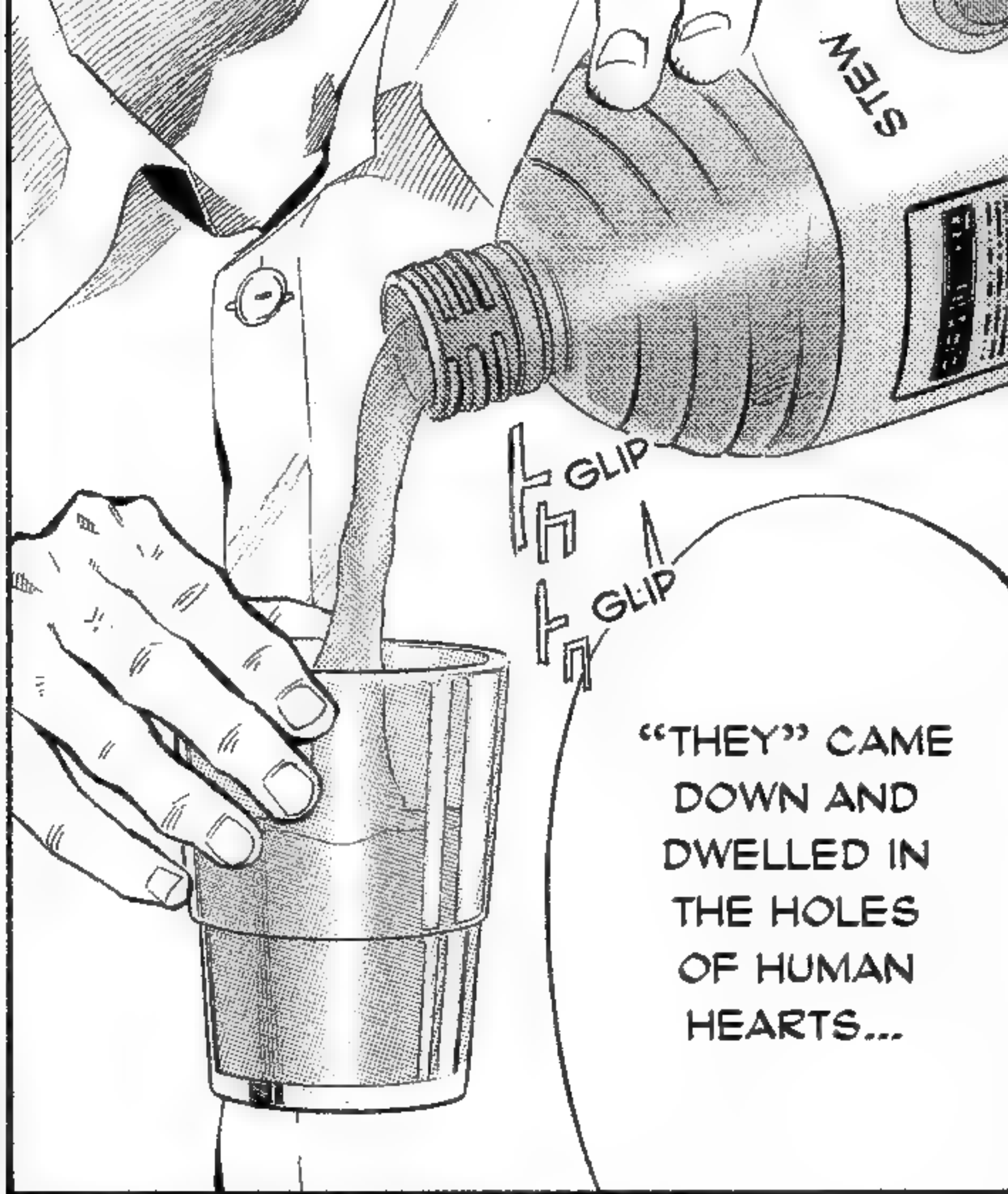
IS MERELY A
BIOLOGICAL
RESPONSE FOR
"THEM."



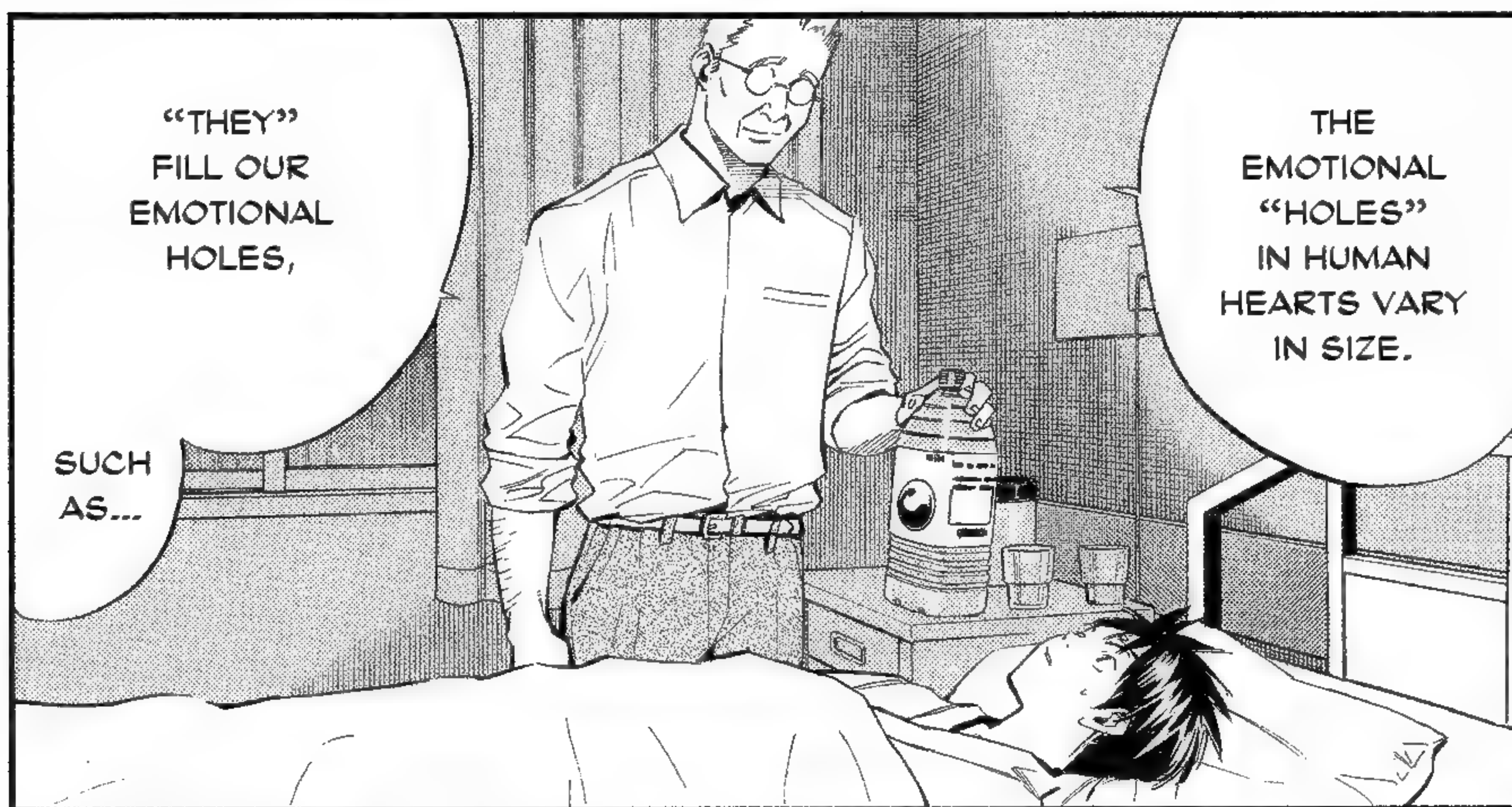
IT'S LIKE
TRYING TO
STOP A
THIRSTY
PERSON
FROM
DRINKING
WATER.



MAKING
SOME OF
US INTO
COMRADES.



"THEY" CAME
DOWN AND
DWELLED IN
THE HOLES
OF HUMAN
HEARTS...



"THEY"
FILL OUR
EMOTIONAL
HOLES,

SUCH
AS...

THE
EMOTIONAL
"HOLES"
IN HUMAN
HEARTS VARY
IN SIZE.



AND IN
YOUR
CASE...

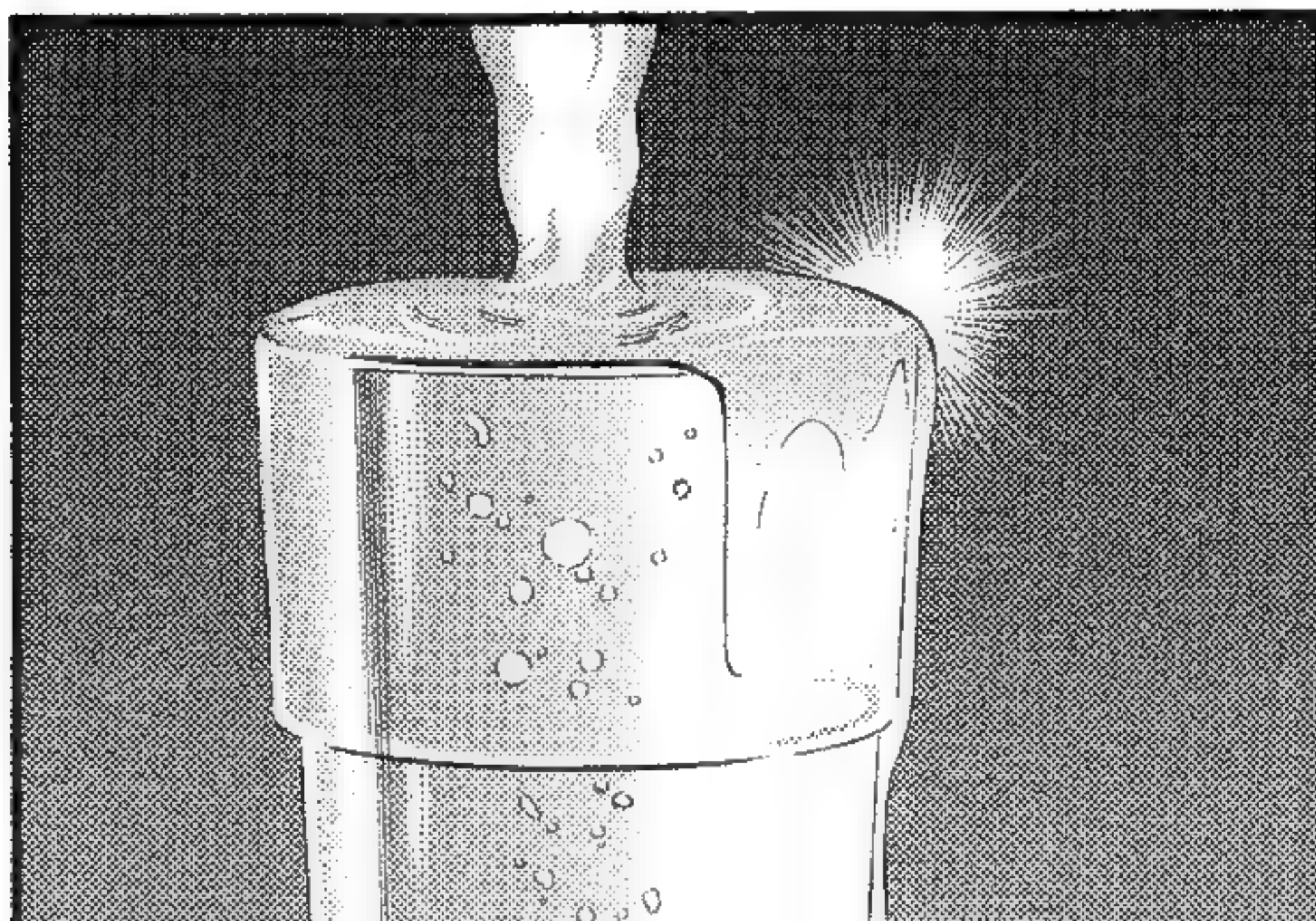
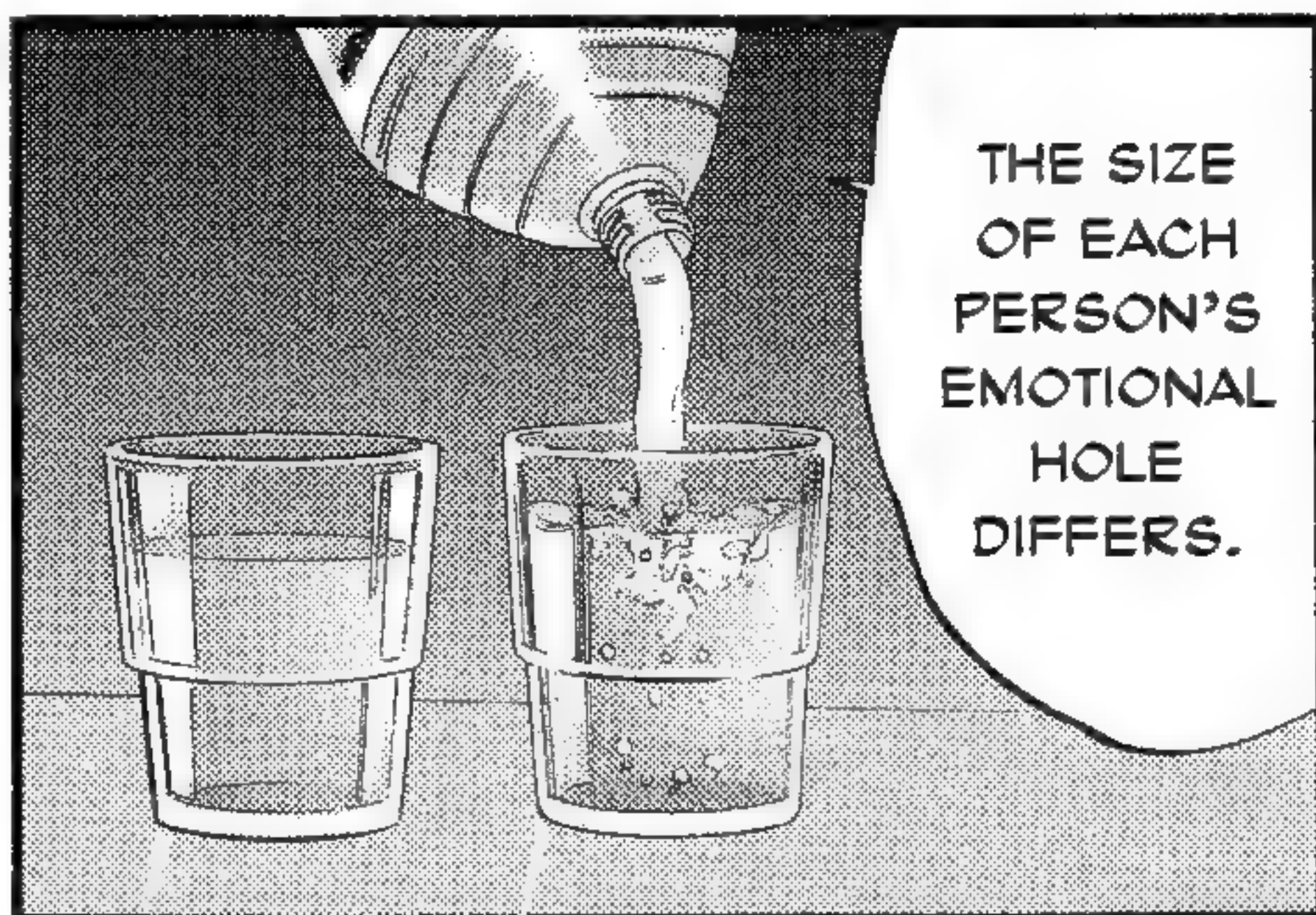
!?



DESPAIR...



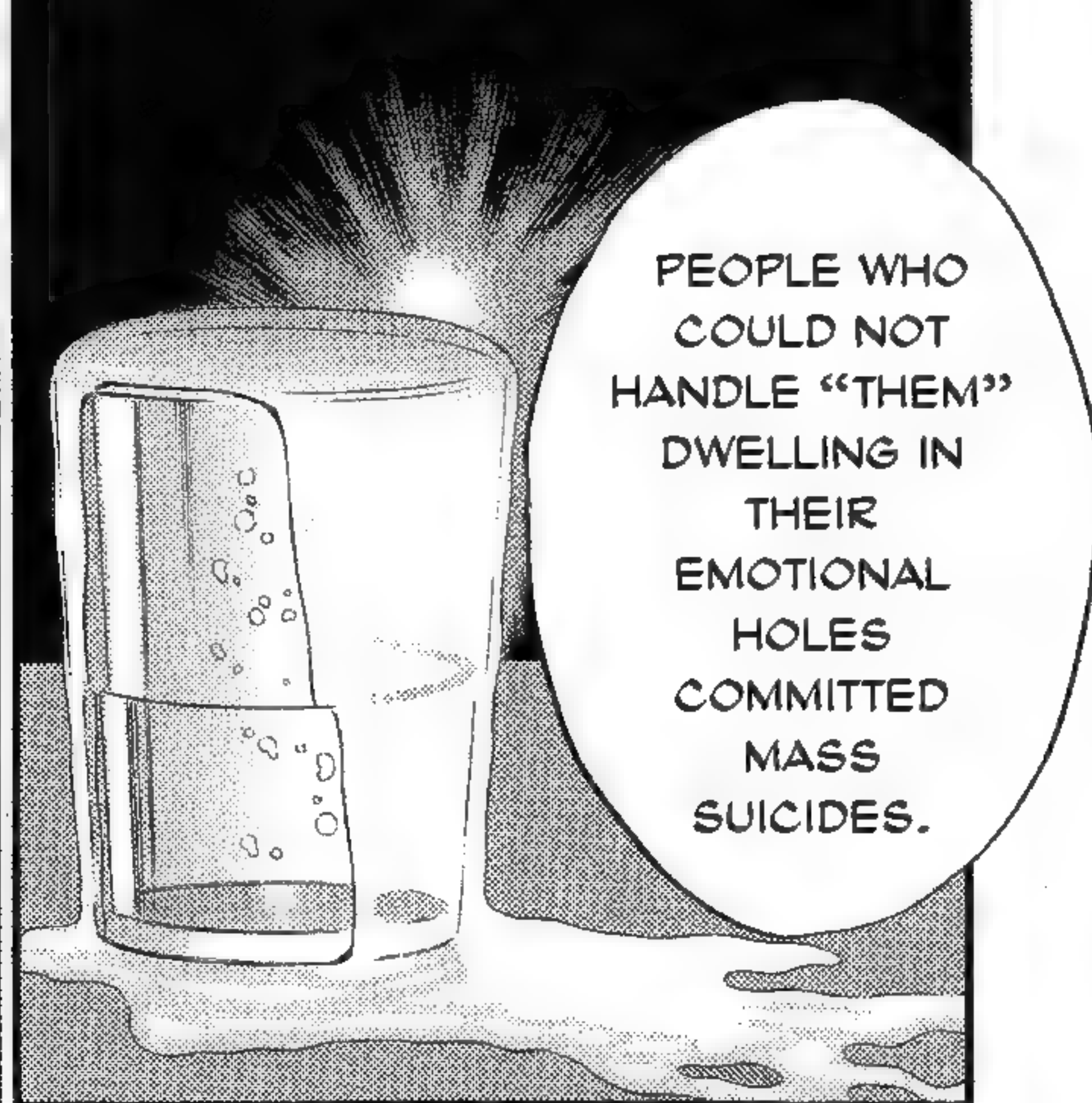
GRUDGE...



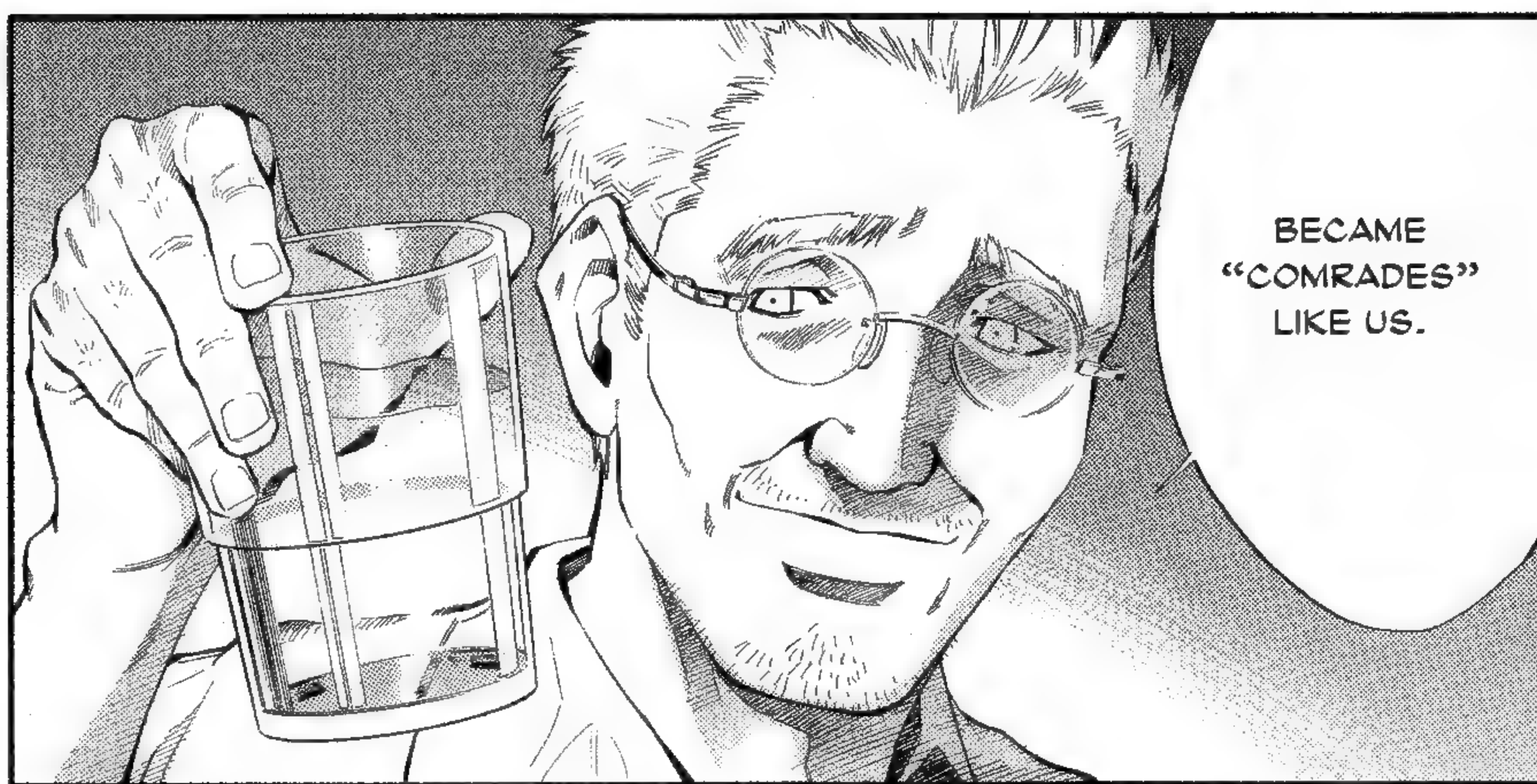


CLUNK

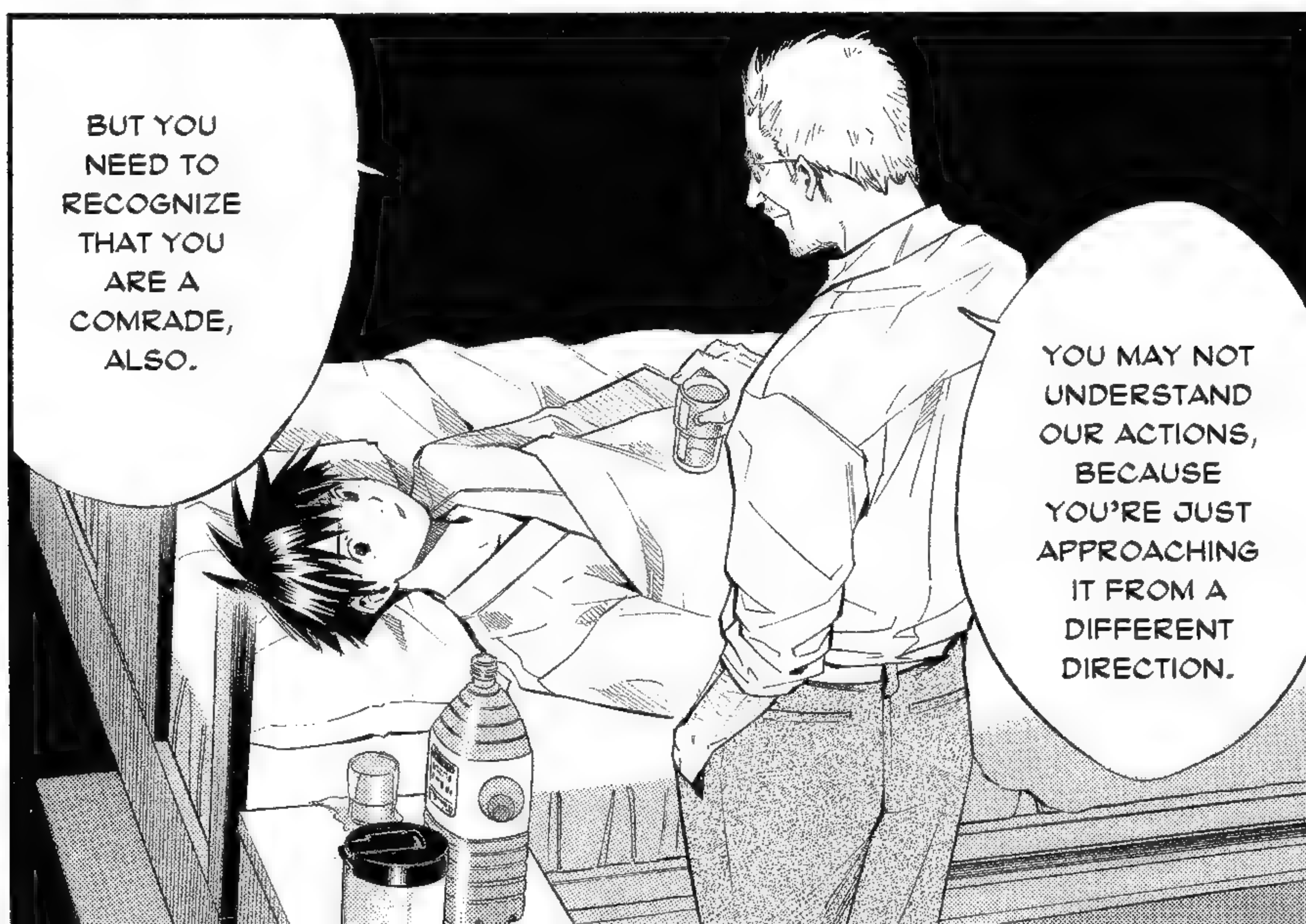
BUT THOSE
WHO WERE
ABLE TO
HANDLE
"THEM"
IN THEIR
HEARTS...



PEOPLE WHO
COULD NOT
HANDLE "THEM"
DWELLING IN
THEIR
EMOTIONAL
HOLES
COMMITTED
MASS
SUICIDES.



BECAME
"COMRADES"
LIKE US.



BUT YOU
NEED TO
RECOGNIZE
THAT YOU
ARE A
COMRADE,
ALSO.

YOU MAY NOT
UNDERSTAND
OUR ACTIONS,
BECAUSE
YOU'RE JUST
APPROACHING
IT FROM A
DIFFERENT
DIRECTION.





THOUGH
I TAKE
CARE OF
MY
FELLOW
COMRADES...

I'M NOT
SO NICE
TO THOSE
WHO GET
IN MY WAY.



WE WILL
HEAD FOR
A "LAKE"
TO OBTAIN
"ACRO'S
HEART."



AND STOP
CHASING
US.

FORGET
ABOUT
YOUR TWO
FRIENDS...



WAIT...



GETTING
SLEEPY...?

WHY
AM I...

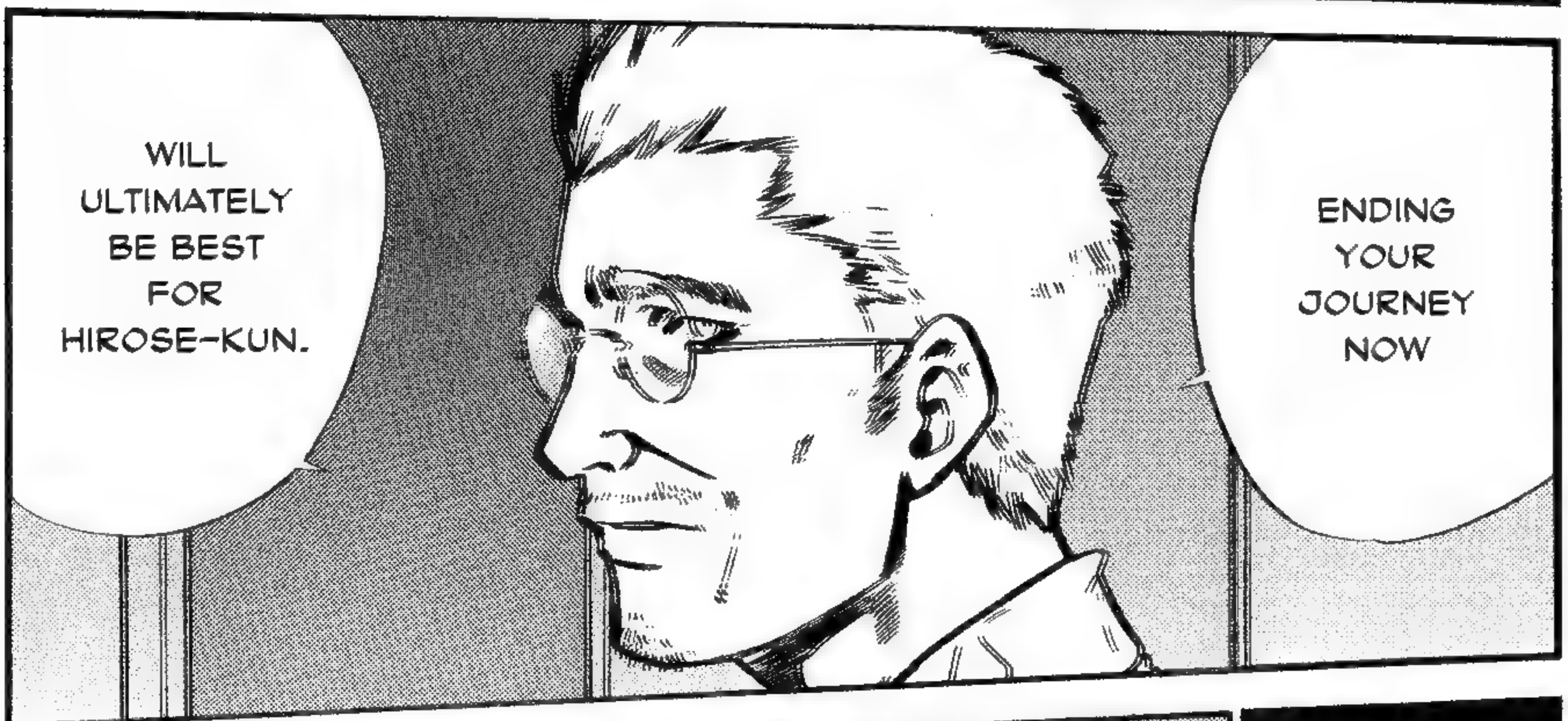


WHA...



...THEM
BACK!

I
WANT...



WILL
ULTIMATELY
BE BEST
FOR
HIROSE-KUN.

ENDING
YOUR
JOURNEY
NOW



WAIT...



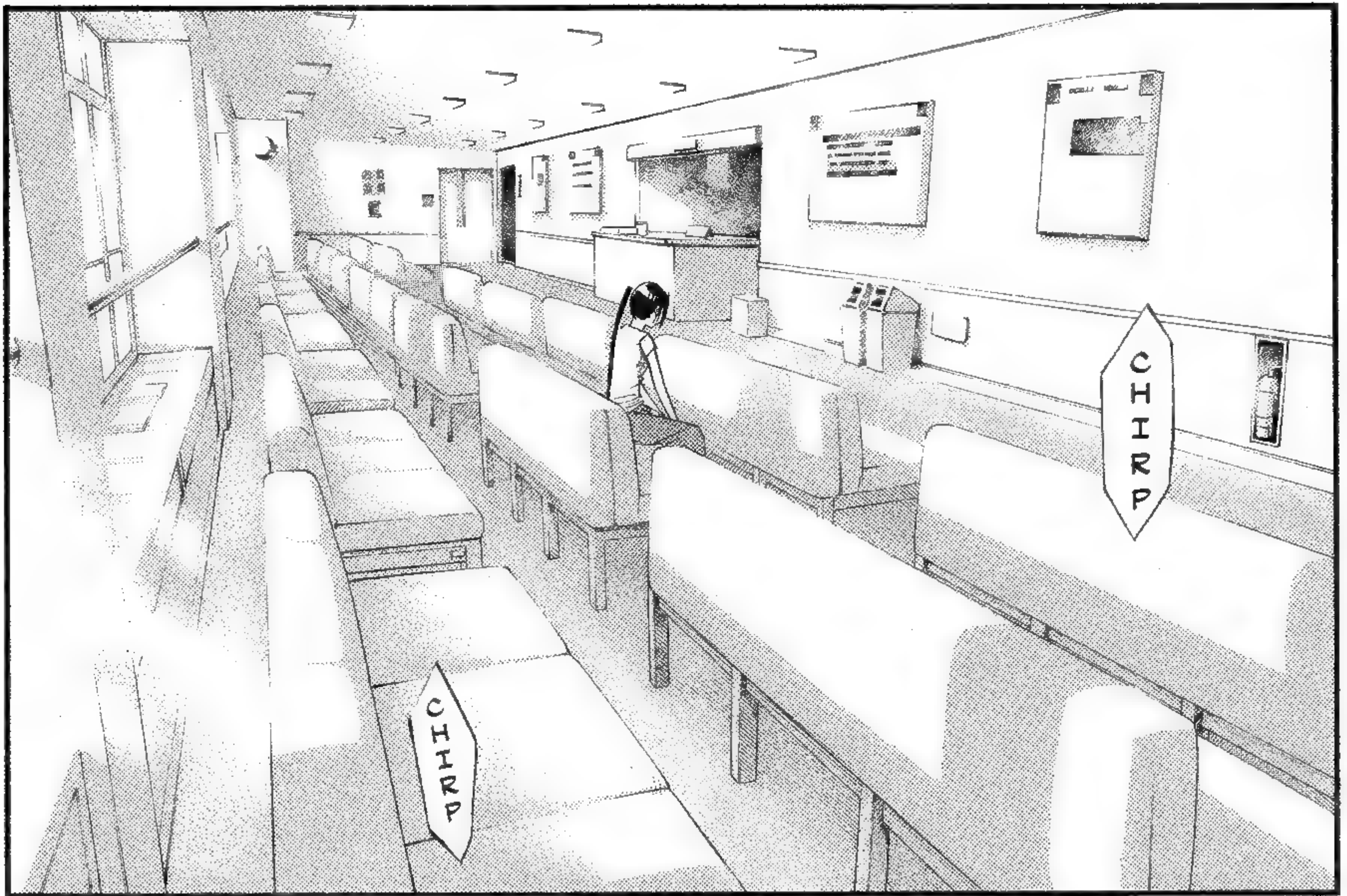
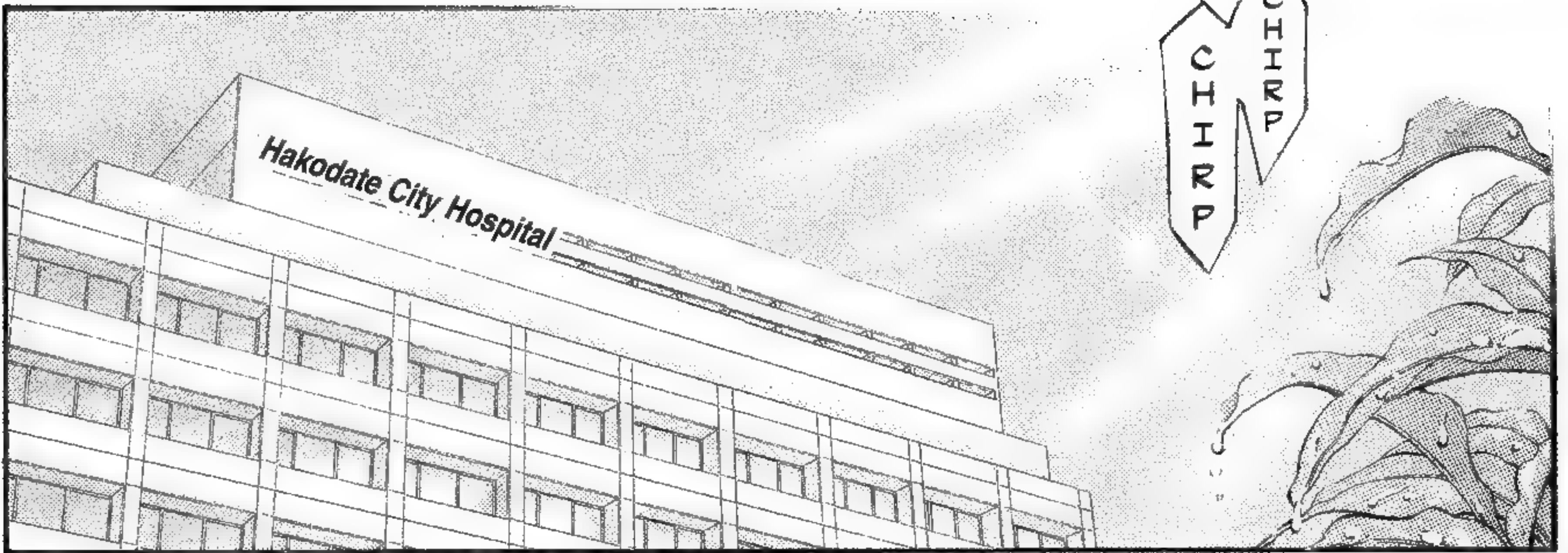
B-TAM



BUT I'M
PRETTY
SURE HE'LL
CONTINUE
THE CHASE.

I
WARNED
HIM...







HE DOESN'T
KNOW
KATSUMATA'S
WHEREABOUTS.



WHY
DIDN'T I
KILL HIM
THEN?!

IT'S
BEEN
THREE
DAYS
ALREADY...

BUT...

I
DON'T
NEED
HIM AT
ALL...





MY
MISSION
IS TO
KILL ALL
COMRADES.

SO WHY
AM I
WAITING FOR
HIM TO
RECOVER?!

WHAT'S
HOLDING
ME BACK?!

I'VE
ALREADY...

**KILLED
A
PERSON
BEFORE!!**



Y-YEAH!
KATSUMATA
IS AT THAT
HOUSE!



EEK

GATHER



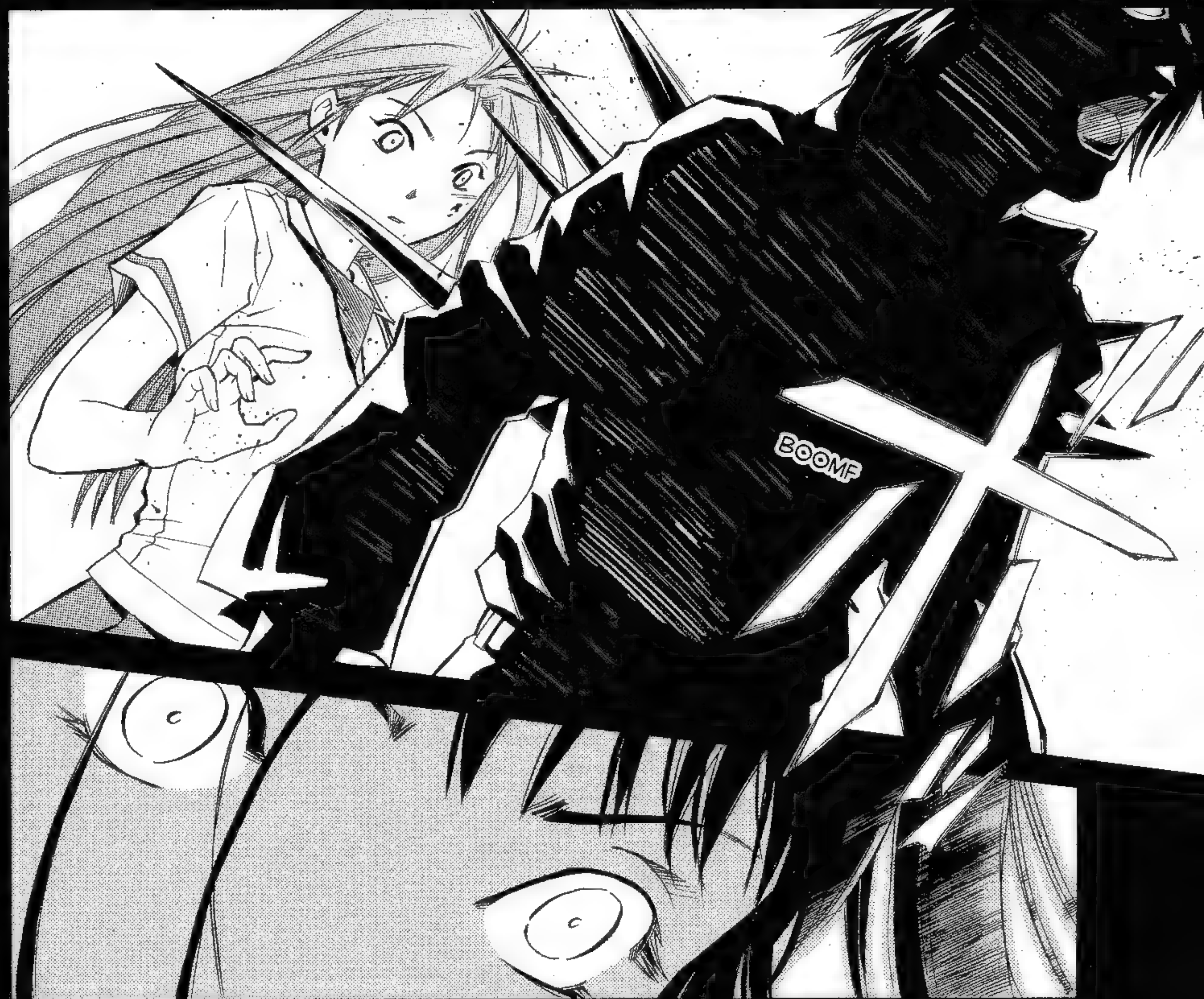
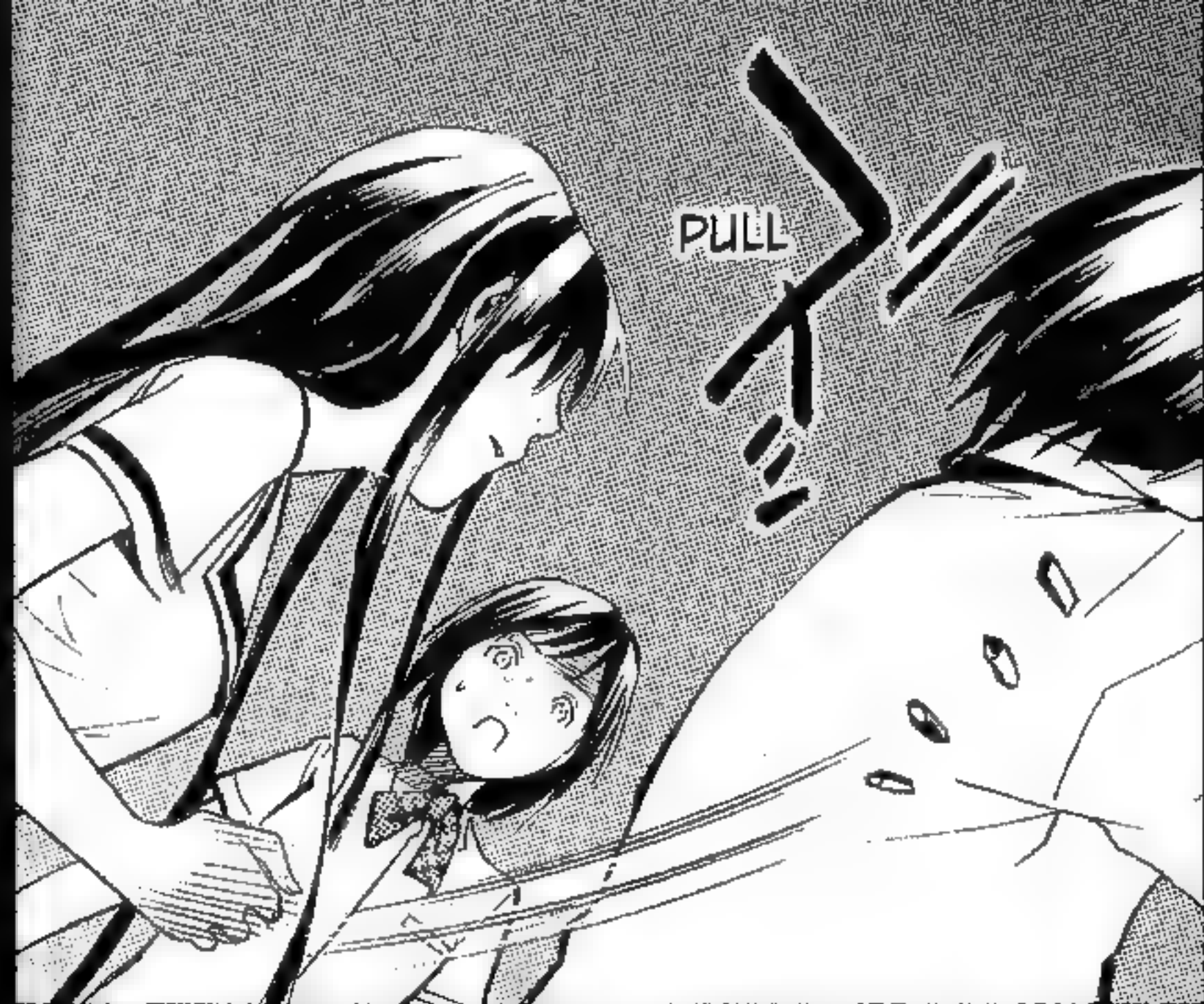
THAT
RED-HAIRED
GIRL IS
PROBABLY
THERE,
TOO.

I TOLD
YOU, SO
LET ME
GO!!

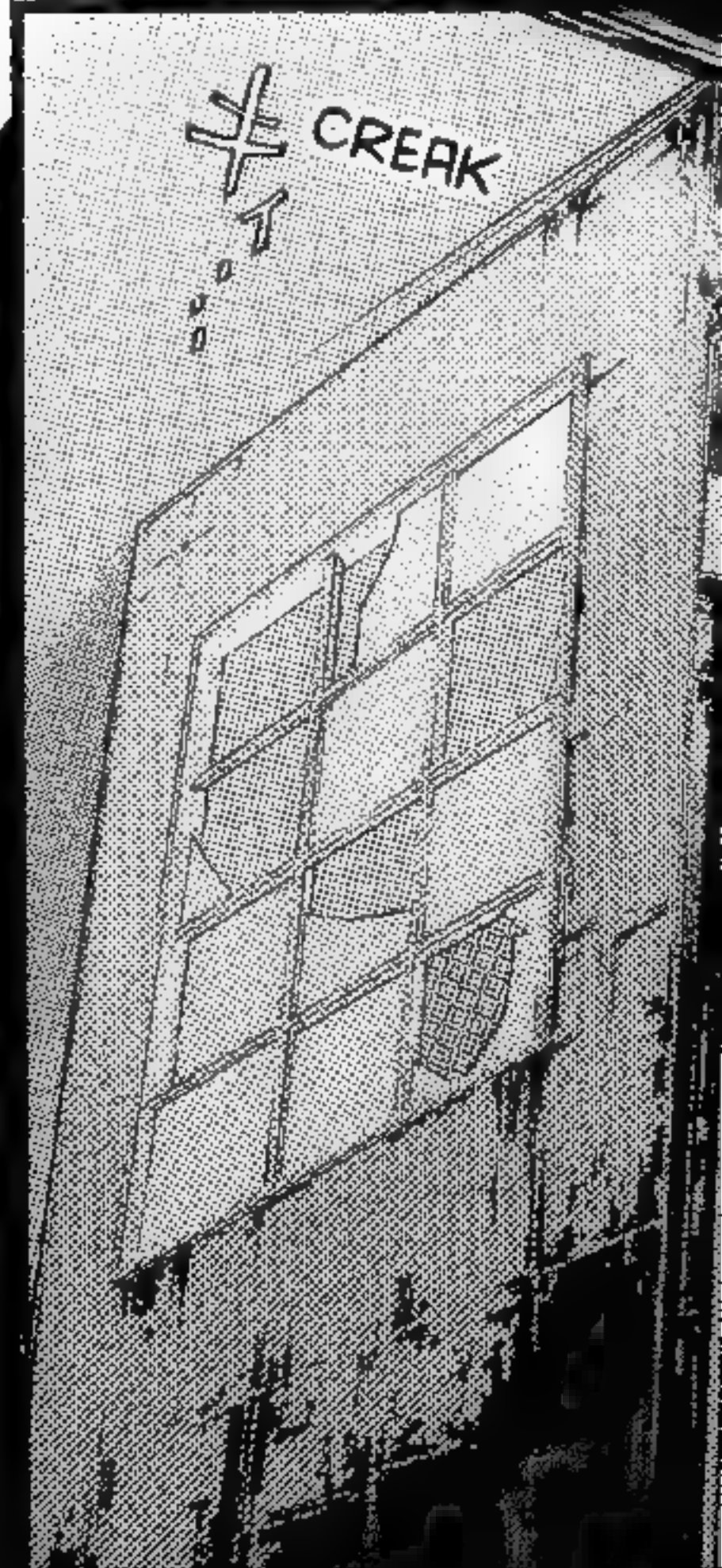


FINE.
GO.











DON'T
HESITATE!



UNTIL I
FIND THAT
WOMAN...

TWITCH



IF I
HESITATE
NOW AND
DROP MY
GUARD,

I MIGHT
LOSE
MY LIFE
LATER!



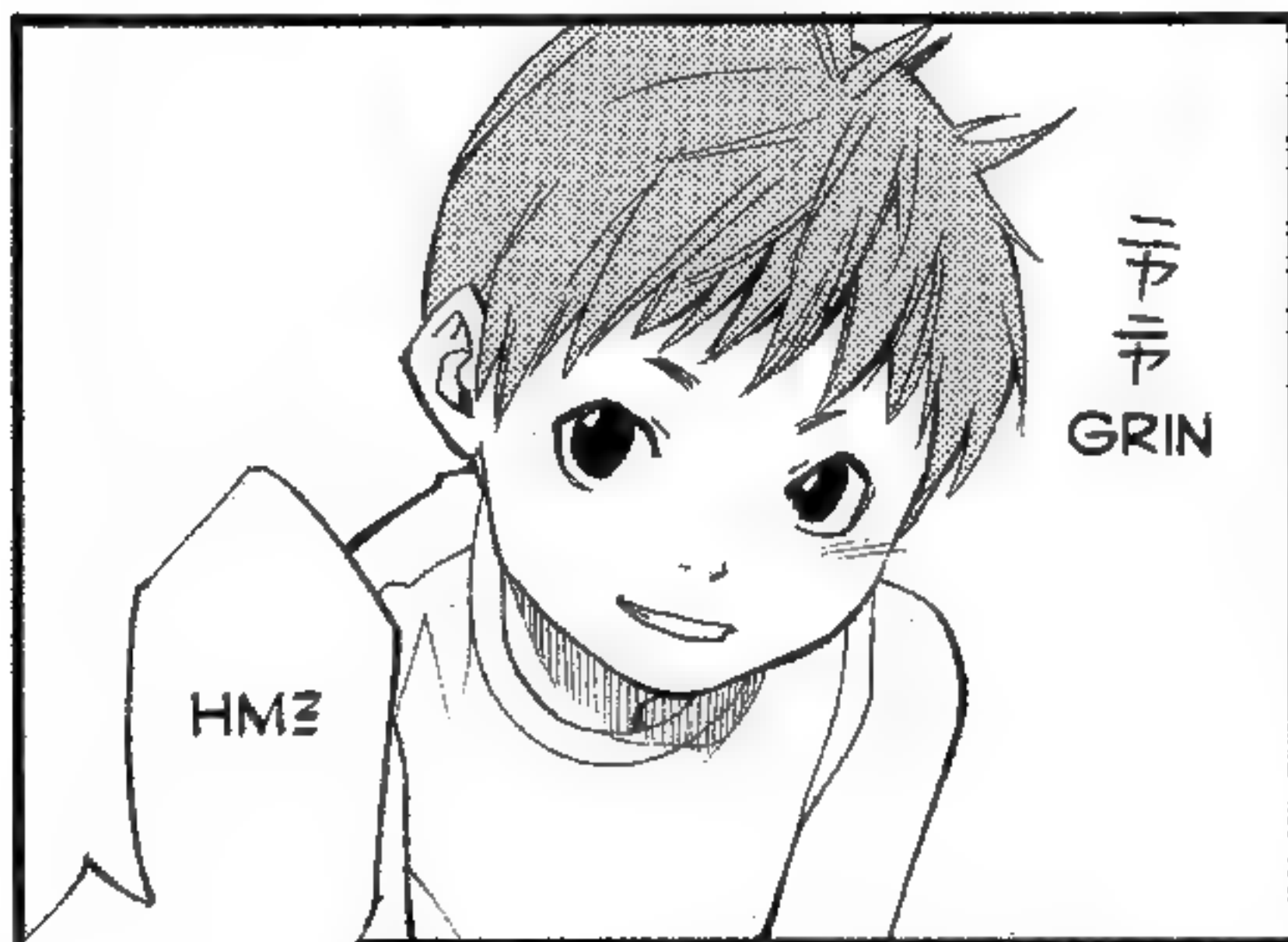
!!

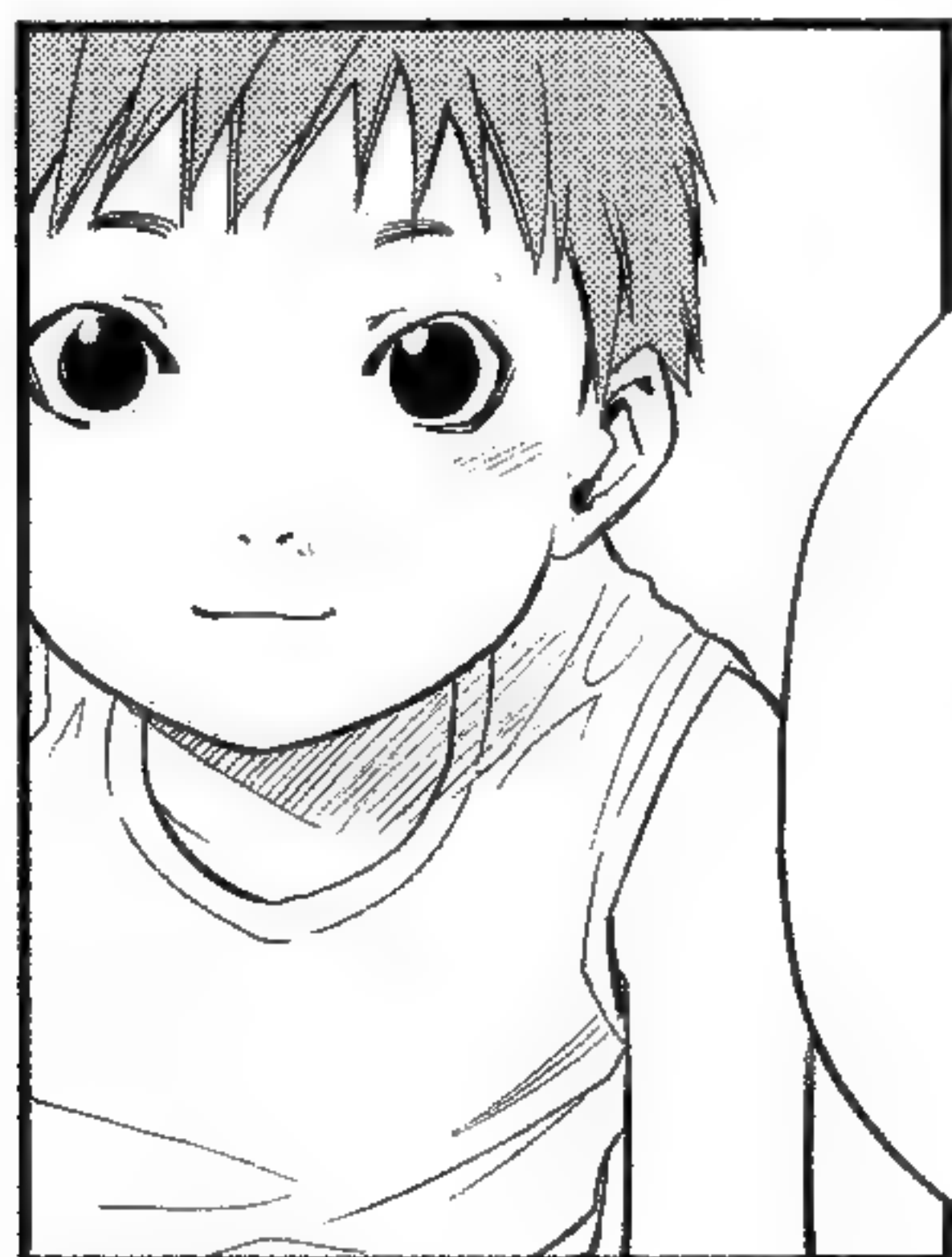
I
CAN'T
DIE
YET!!



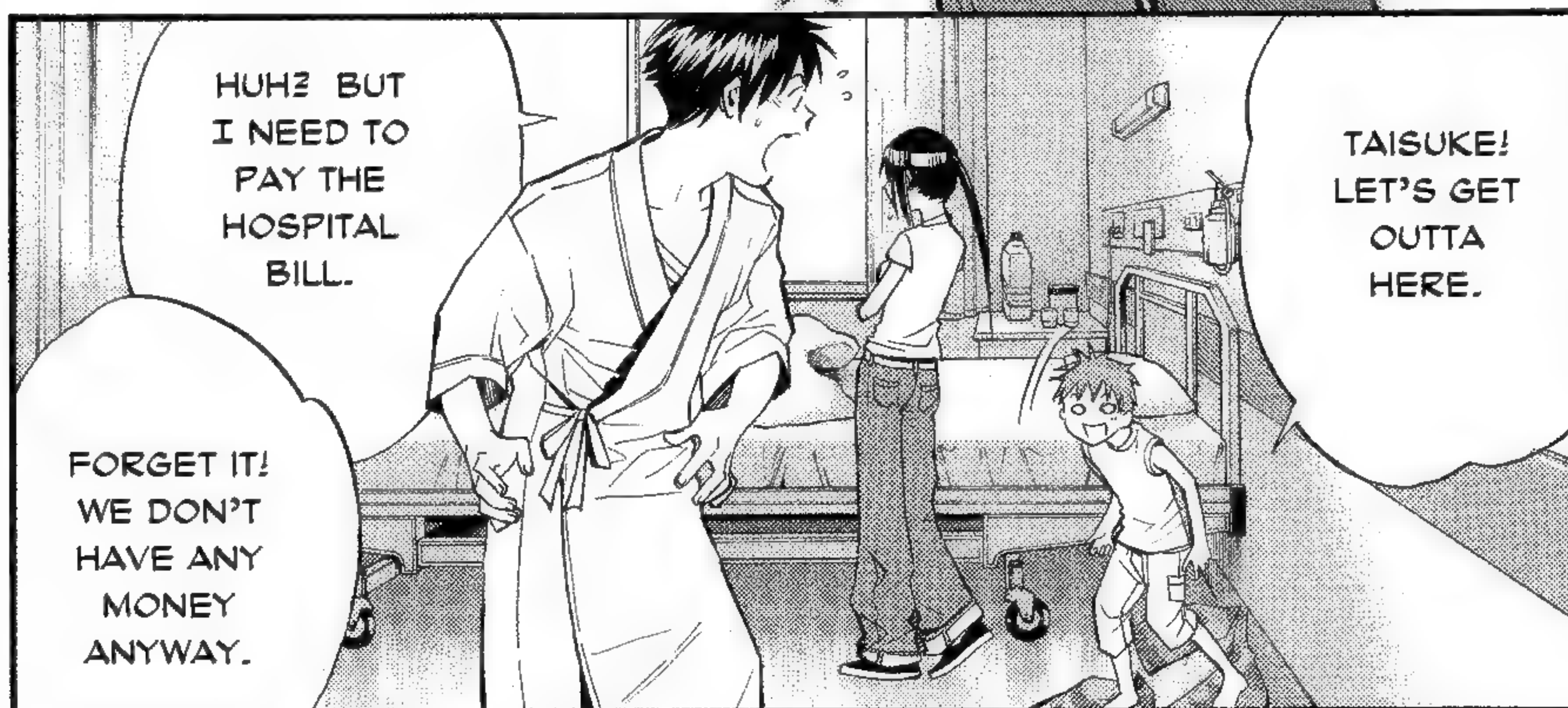
POINT







I...I
WON'T
DO IT
TODAY.



HUH? BUT
I NEED TO
PAY THE
HOSPITAL
BILL.

TAISUKE!
LET'S GET
OUTTA
HERE.

FORGET IT!
WE DON'T
HAVE ANY
MONEY
ANYWAY.



THE COPS
ALMOST FOUND
OUT WHO WE
REALLY ARE
WHEN THEY
WENT
THROUGH THE
SHIP'S
MANIFEST!!

I HID
YOUR BIKE
AND
STUDENT ID,
TOO!!

COPS!?!
OH
CRAP!!



BUT
WHY
DOES A
RUNAWAY
CARRY
PROPER
PAPERWORK
!!

OH
YEAH,
I
SAW
IT!

DON'T
WORRY, I
BROUGHT
A COPY OF
MY HEALTH
INSURANCE
CARD.

I almost had a
heart attack when
the cops went
through your
stuff!!







I'LL
SURELY
DIE OF
HUMILIATION
!!

Whoa Really...

Wow...

I
CAN'T LET
ODA-CHAN
SEE ME IN
THIS GETUP.

RUMBLE

RUMBLE

Tsk
Tsk

Office News
The Flat-breasted
Nurse Monster!!
A pitiful sight.
A truly, a
painful sight.
A sore sight
for your eyes.
Creature is
related to the
ittan-momen.

URBAN
LEGEND

ERR,
TAKE YOUR
TEMPERATURE...

KANOU-KUN,
CAN I
INTERVIEW...

THERE'S
NOBODY
AROUND!
NOW'S MY
CHANCE!





Whaaaat?

BUT I
THOUGHT YOU
DIDN'T WANT
ME TO BE WITH
YOU TODAY,
AMAMIYA-
SAN.

TH-THE
SITUATION
HAS
CHANGED!!

ODA-CHAN,
COME BACK
NOW!!

TAISUKE
KANOU
GOT
AWAY!



OH SORRY, IT'S
AGAINST THE
LAW TO TALK
ON THE CELL
WHILE
DRIVING.

WAIT
ODA-
CHA -

CLICK

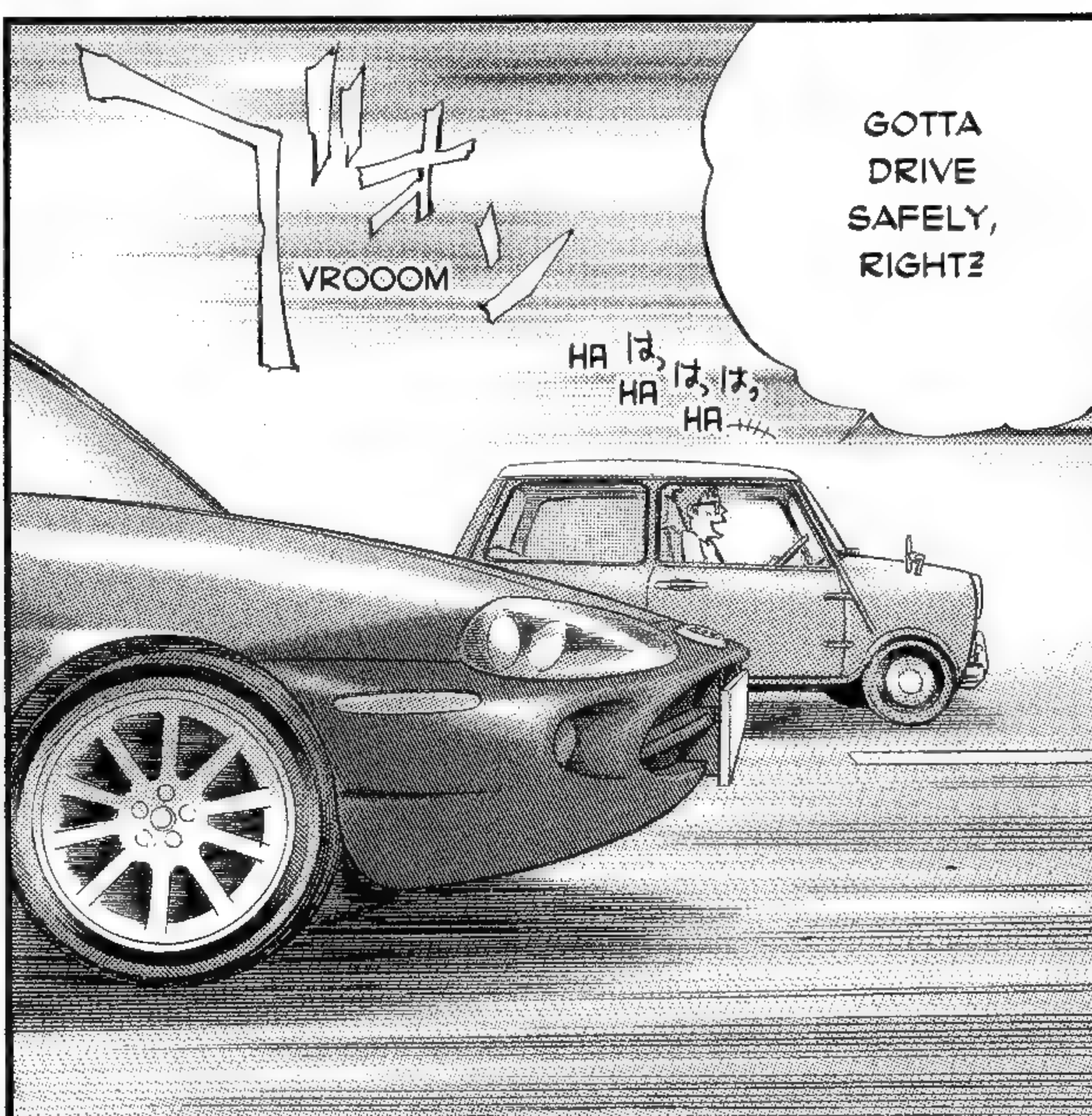
WE'RE HERE
ON BUSINESS!
BESIDES,
ODA-CHAN,
YOU'RE
ALWAYS SO -

BUT
WE CAME
ALL THE
WAY TO
HOKKAIDO,
SO...



TURN

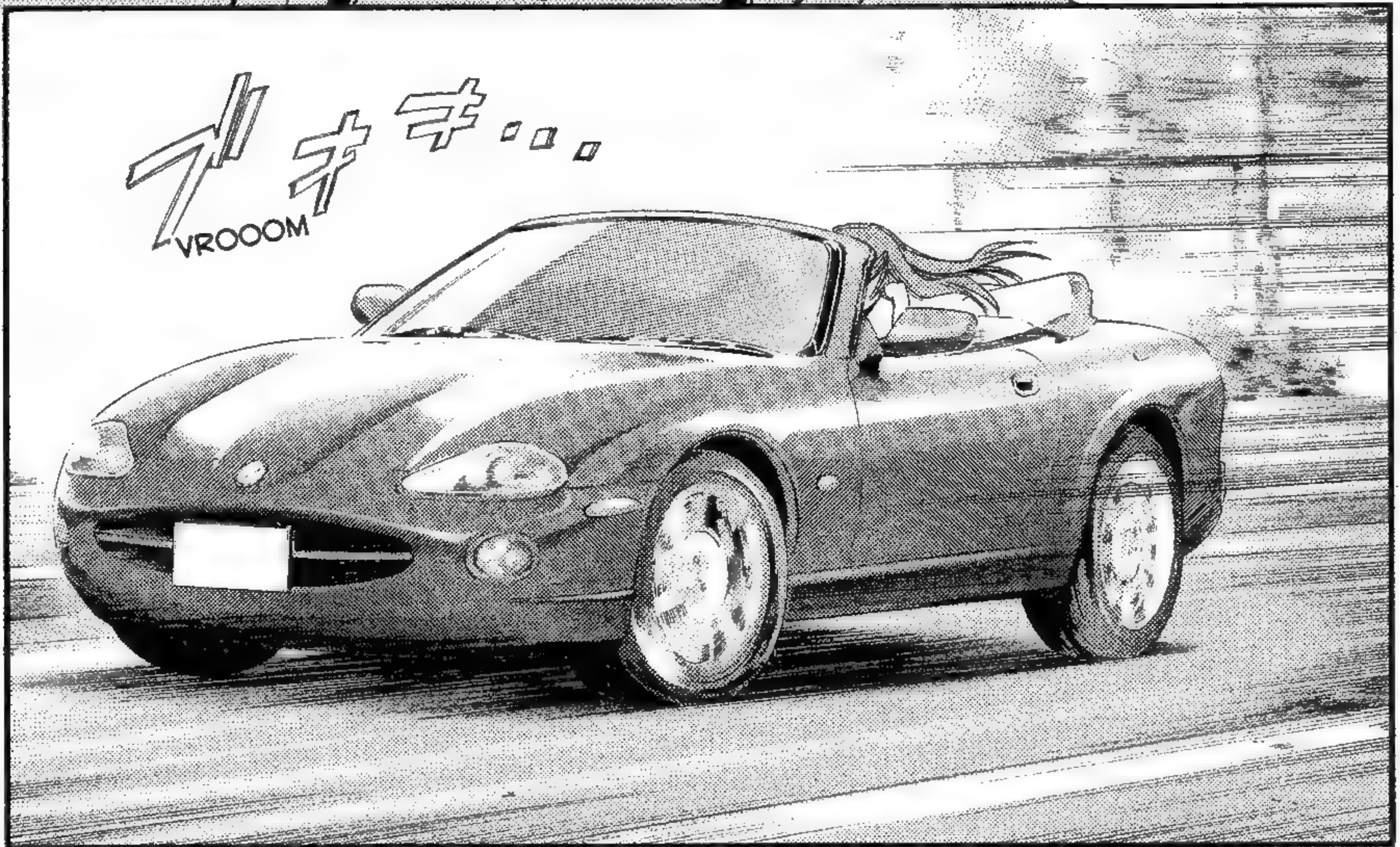
SHE'S
CUTE!

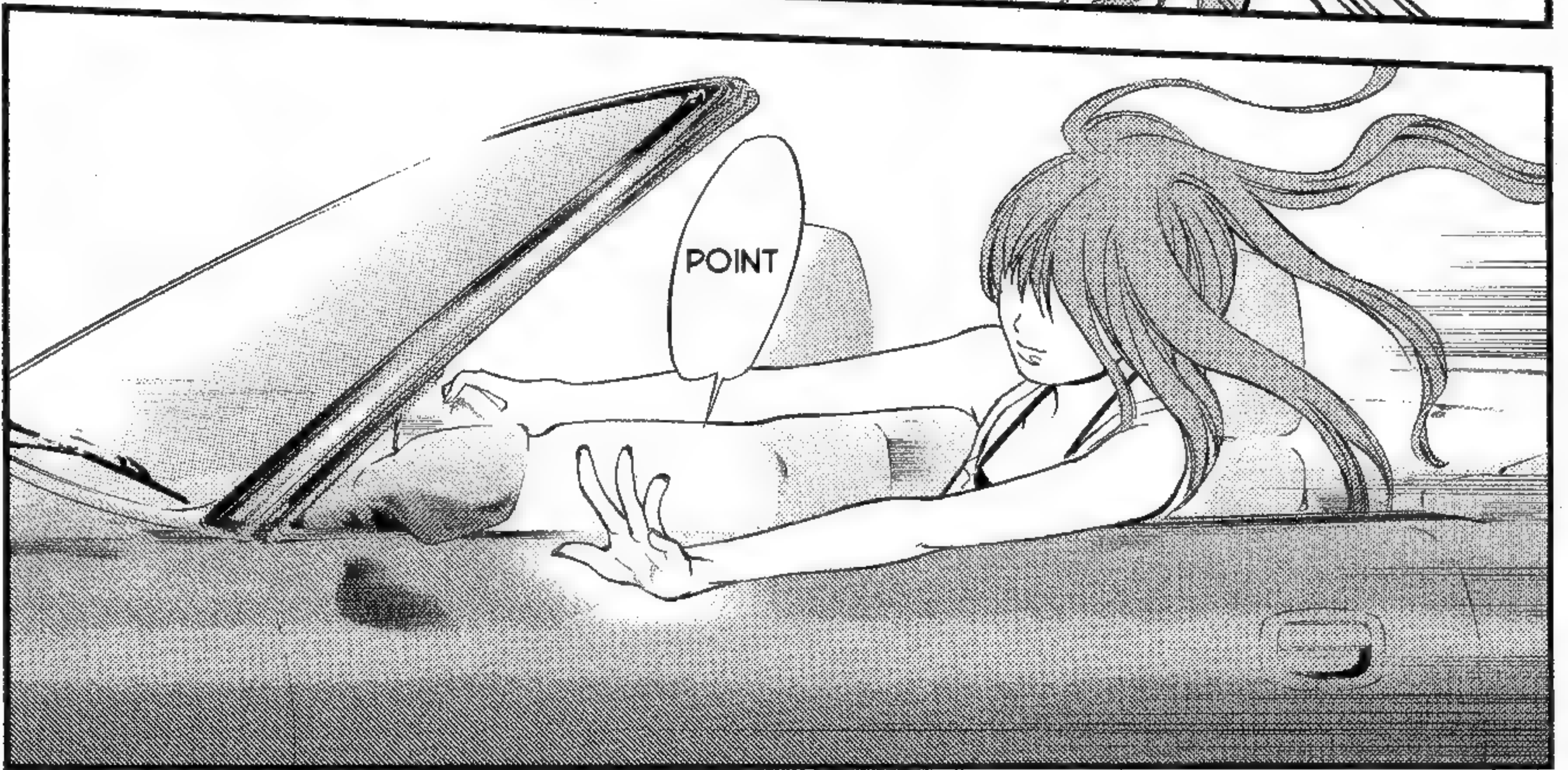


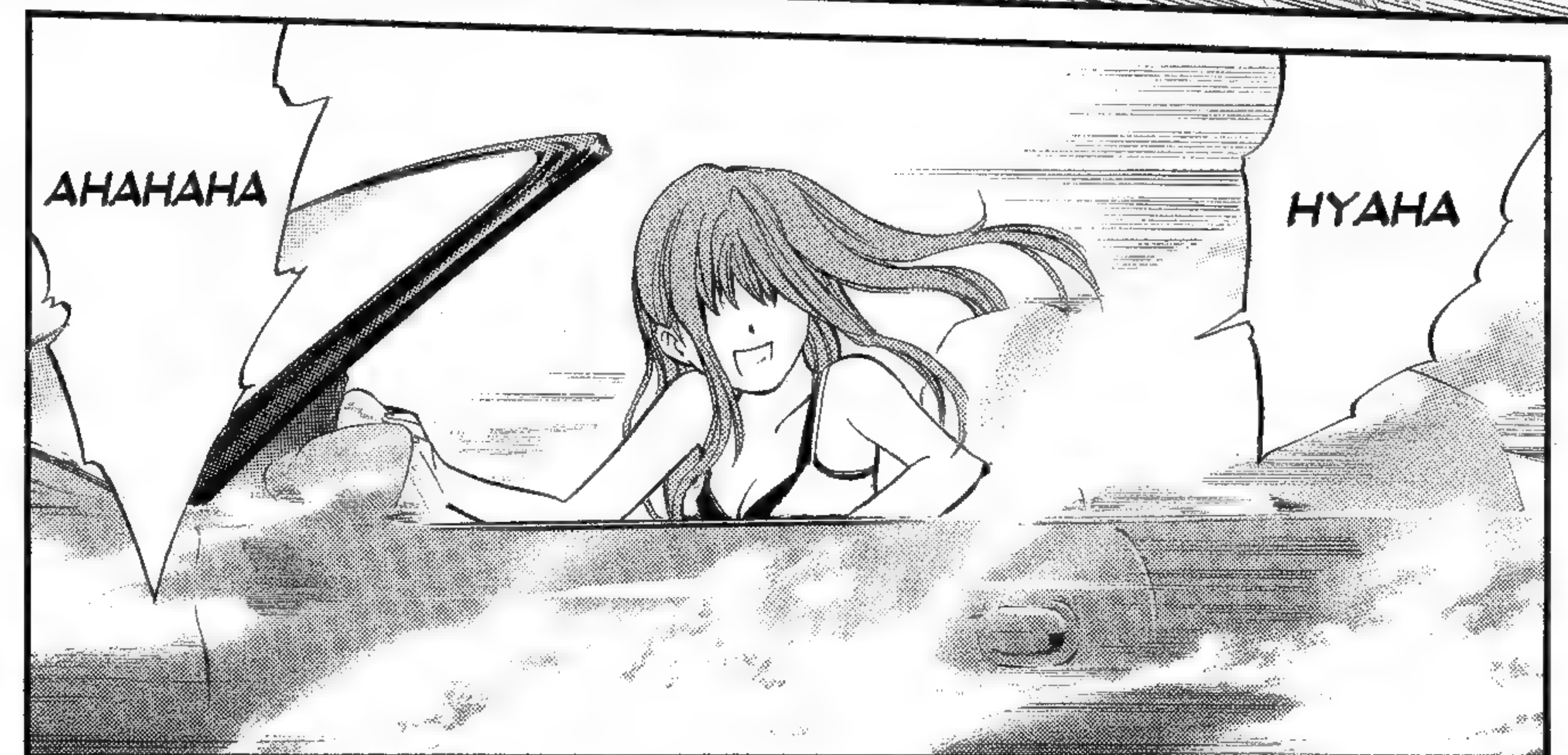
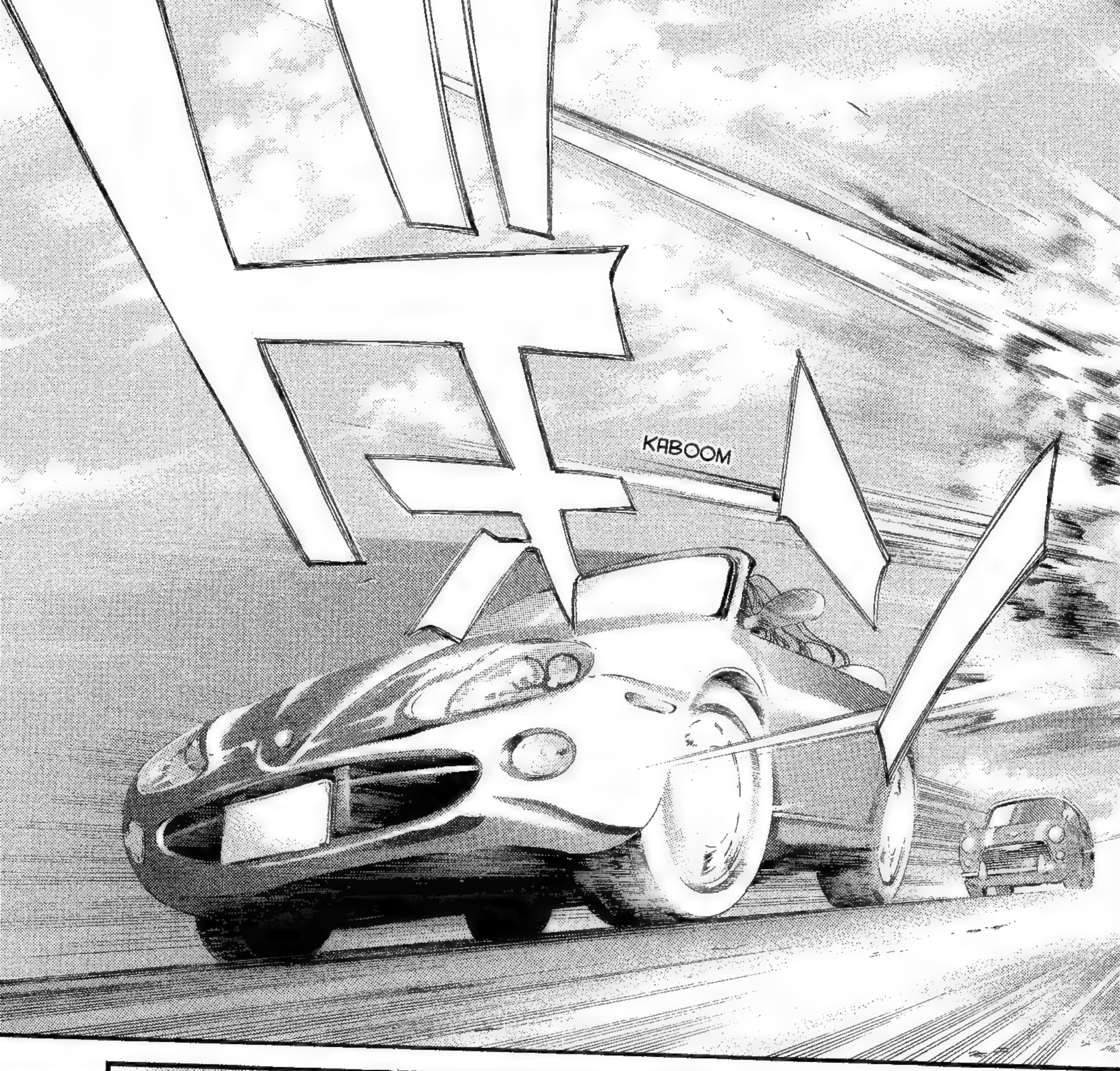
GOTTA
DRIVE
SAFELY,
RIGHT?

VROOOM

HA は, は, は,
HA









AN
EXPLO-
SION...



BA-
BA-
BA-
...

I'M
NOT A
BABAA!

ODA-
CHAN!
DON'T CUT
ME OFF!



THE
PEOPLE
INSIDE
ARE...OH
GOSH!

A CAR
SUDDENLY
BLEW UP!!



AND
IT
BLEW
UP!

A
RED-HAIRED
GIRL
POINTED HER
HAND
AT THE
CAR IN
FRONT...



I
SAW
HER!

ODA-
CHAN!
CALM
DOWN!



**AND
SHE
WAS
SMILING!!**



**WHO
IN THE
WORLD
IS SHE?!**





Alive

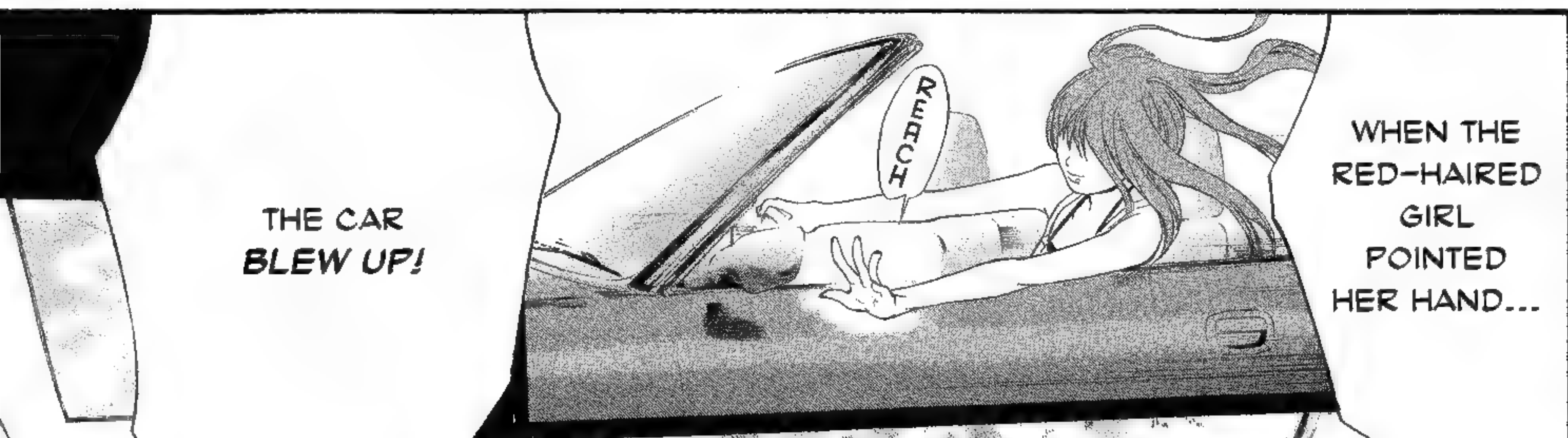
The Final Evolution



AMAMIYA-SAN, LET'S STOP CHASING TAISUKE KANOU AND RETURN TO TOKYO...



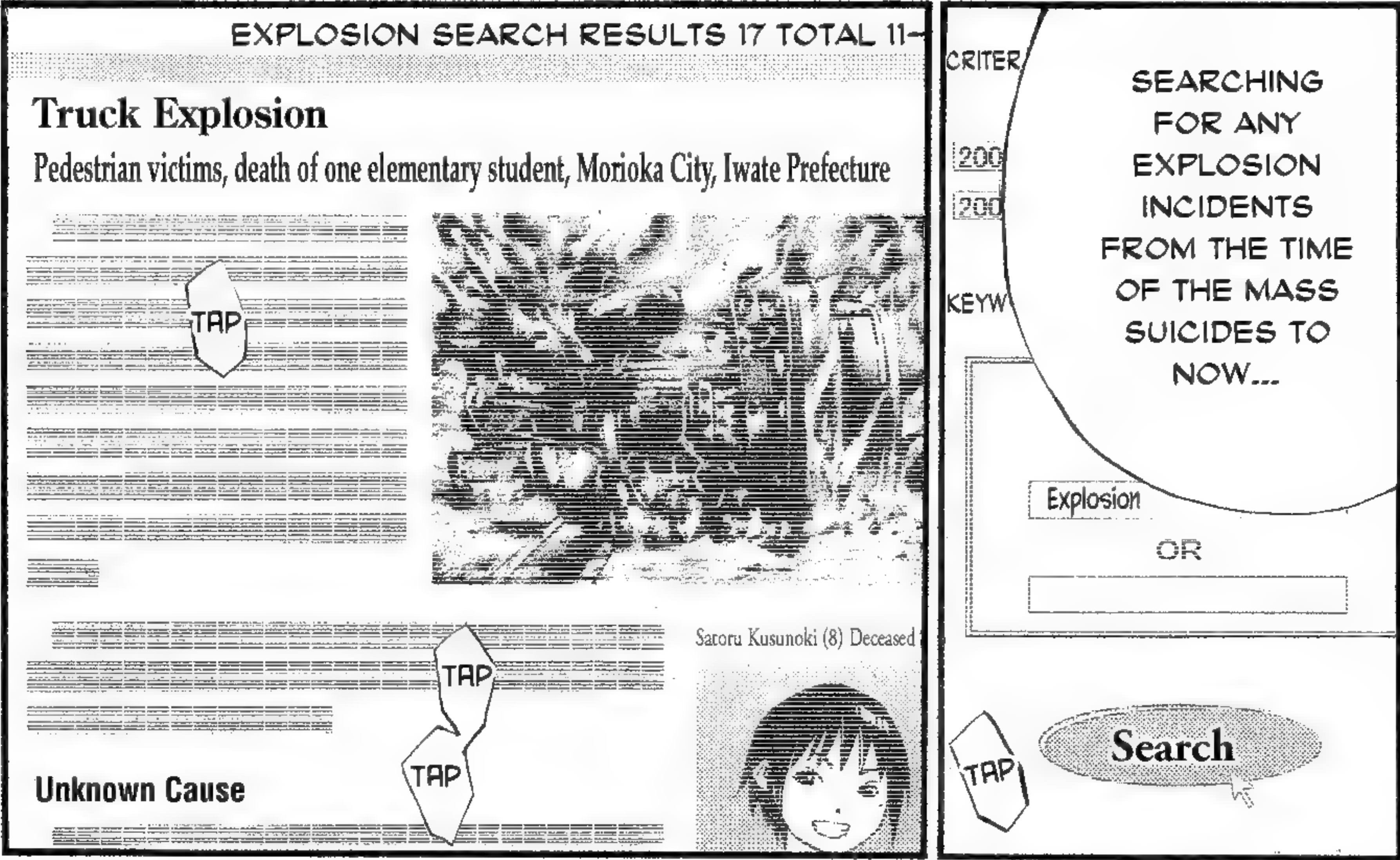
WE KEEP RUNNING INTO STRANGE THINGS SINCE WE STARTED CHASING HIM! IF WE KEEP THIS UP, WE'LL GET MIXED UP IN DANGER!



THE CAR BLEW UP!

WHEN THE RED-HAIRED GIRL POINTED HER HAND...





Passenger list (Manifest)

(Children under six require supervision.)

Please enter your name.	Name	Age	Sex
	Taisuke Kanou	16	Male
	Yuta Takizawa		
	Nami Kusunoki		



WH-
WHAT'S
UP?

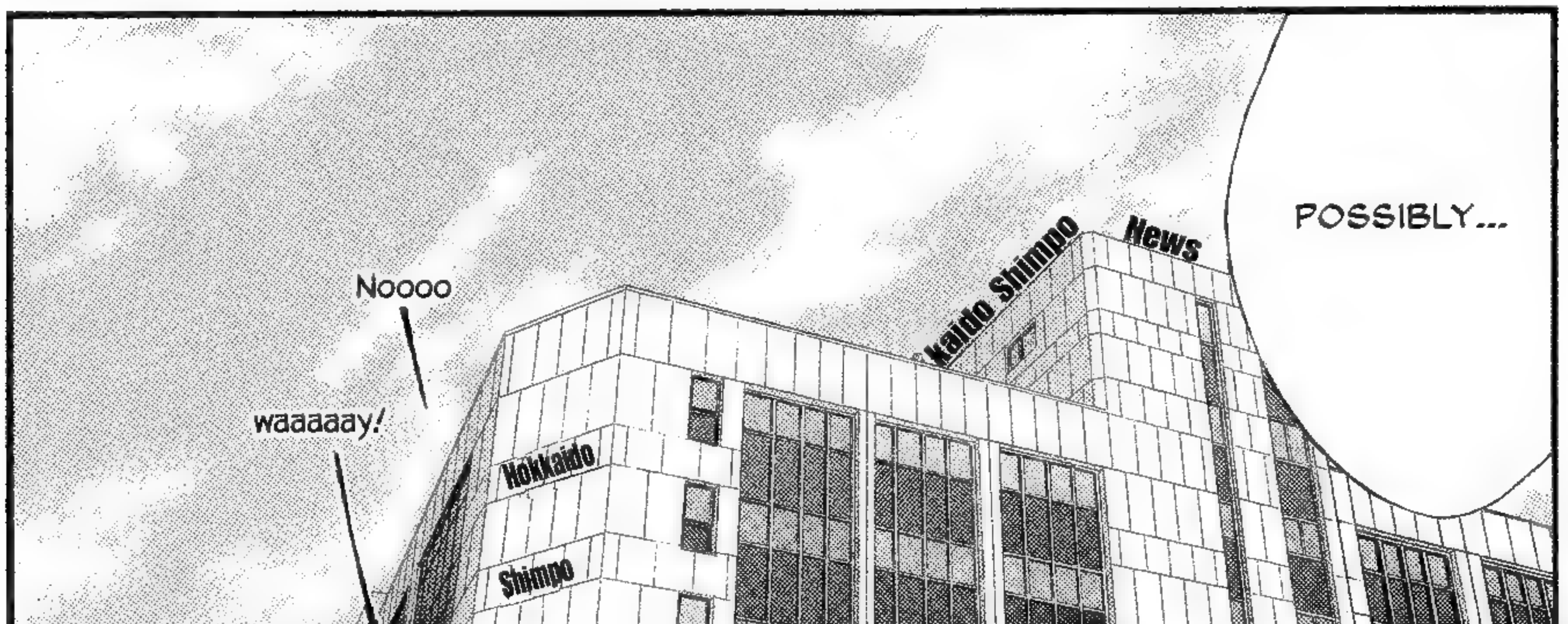
ODA-CHAN,
PLEASE
CONTACT THE
REPORTER WHO
WROTE THIS
ARTICLE.

IS THIS
CONNECTED
TO TAISUKE
KANOU?



Nami Kusunoki

THE
FERRY
PASSENGER
LIST...



Noooo

waaaaay!

Hokkaido

Shimpo

Kaido Shimpo News

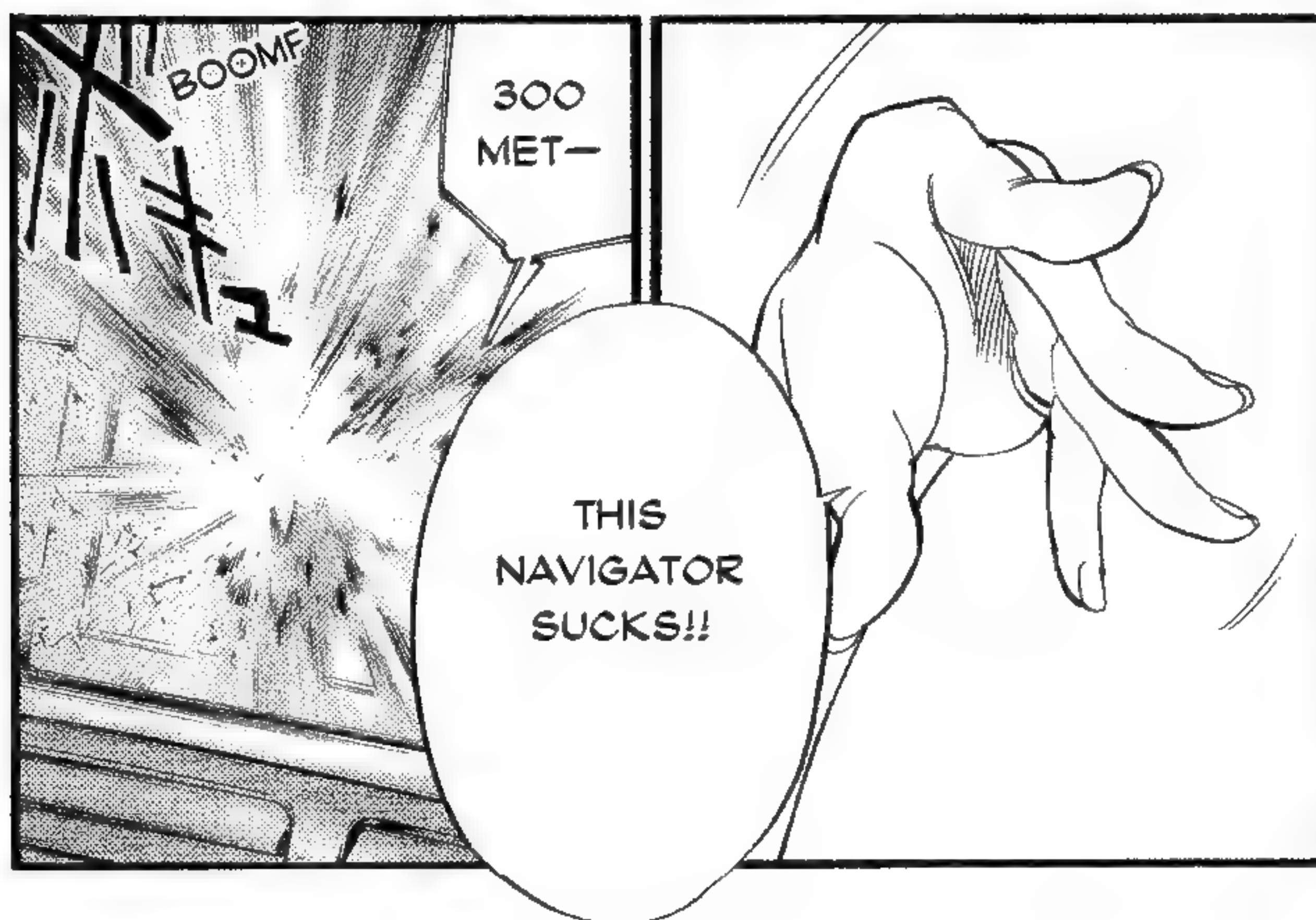
POSSIBLY...



OH...?



THIS IS
THE PLACE
WHERE
EVERYONE IS.



THE
DESTINATION
IS 300
METERS TO
THE RIGHT.



KANON IS
SUCH A
GENIUS



FSSSSH

H/II

Chapter 18

Who Am I Like?

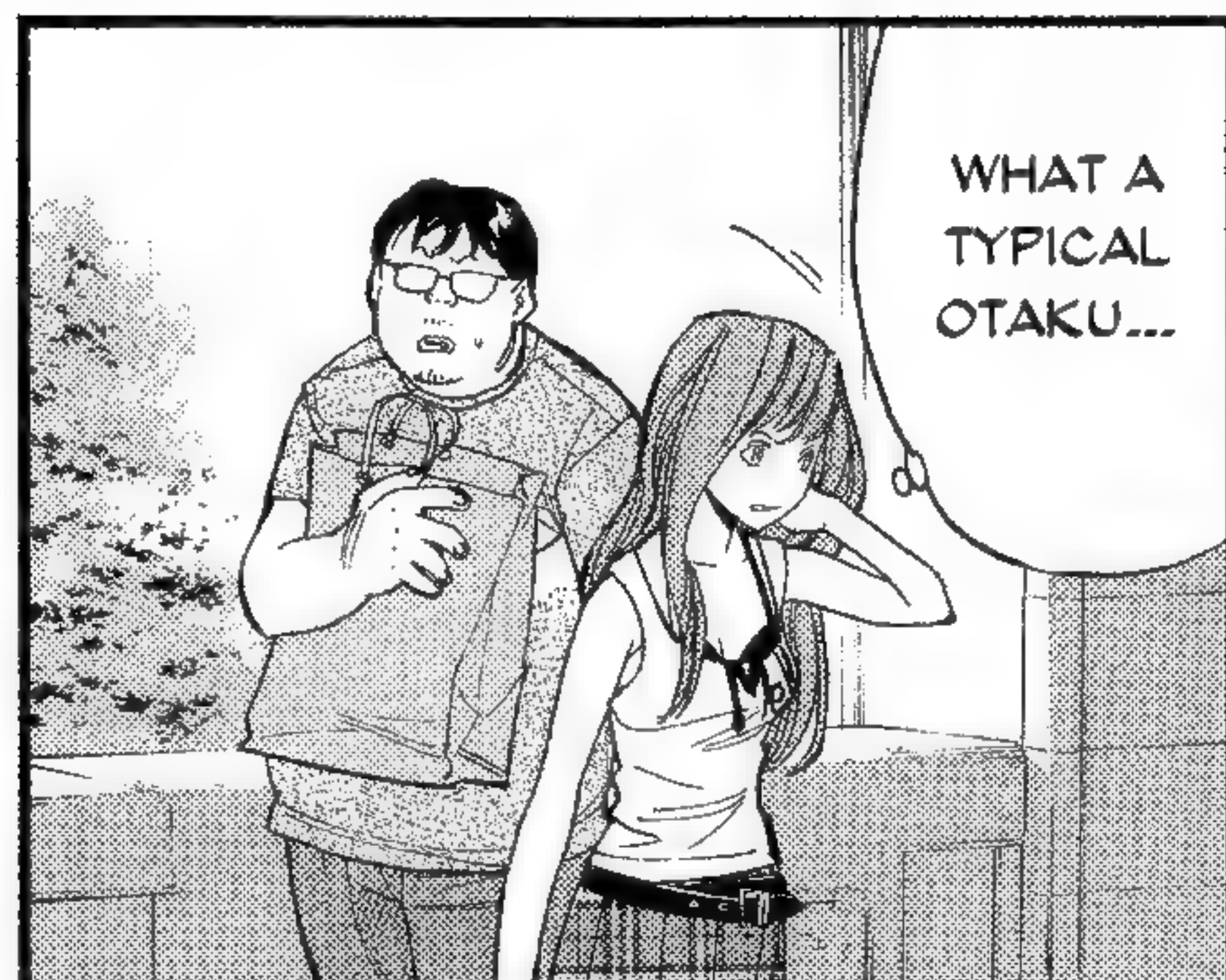
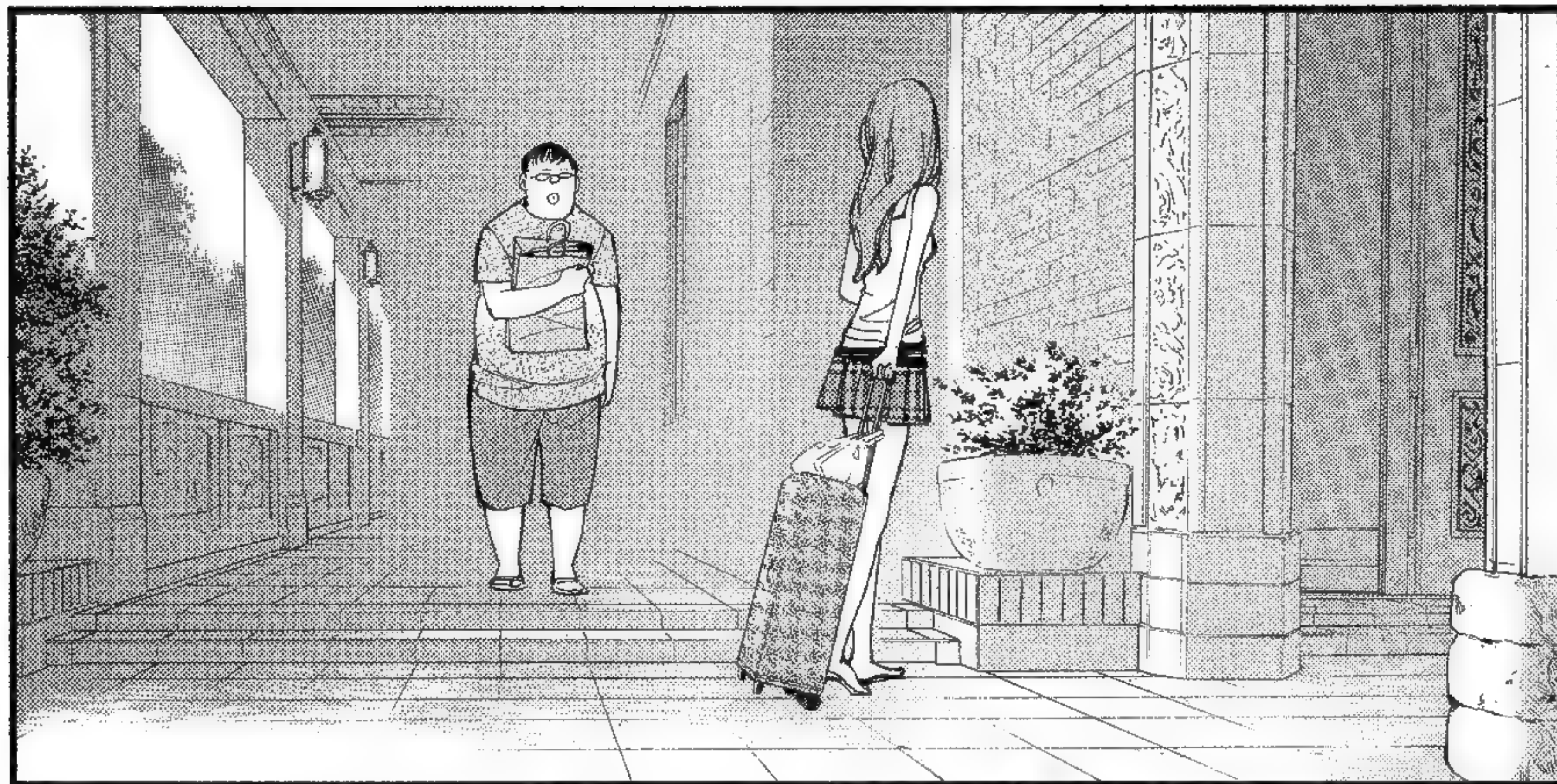
Listen to what he does not say.



I WISH
HE'D
PICK A
PLACE
CLOSER
TO
TOWN...



WHY DOES
KATSUMATA-
SAN LIKE
TO HIDE OUT
IN THE
MOUNTAINS
SO MUCH...?



WHAT A
TYPICAL
OTAKU...



EWWW...





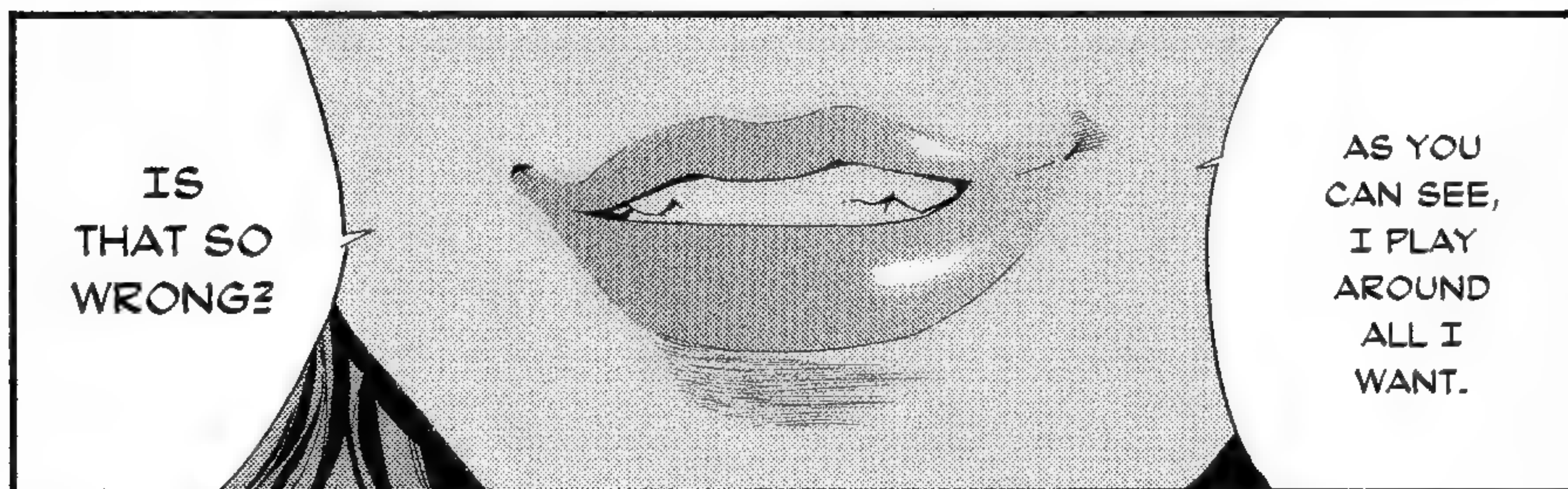
THAT'S
RIGHT,
I'M A
BIMBO!

YOU
CALLED ME
A BIMBO,
DIDN'T
YOU?



SPRIN-
KLE
SPRIN-
KLE

EH...?



IS
THAT SO
WRONG?

AS YOU
CAN SEE,
I PLAY
AROUND
ALL I
WANT.



HYAHA

IS IT
WRONG?



EEEK!

YOU'RE
GROSS



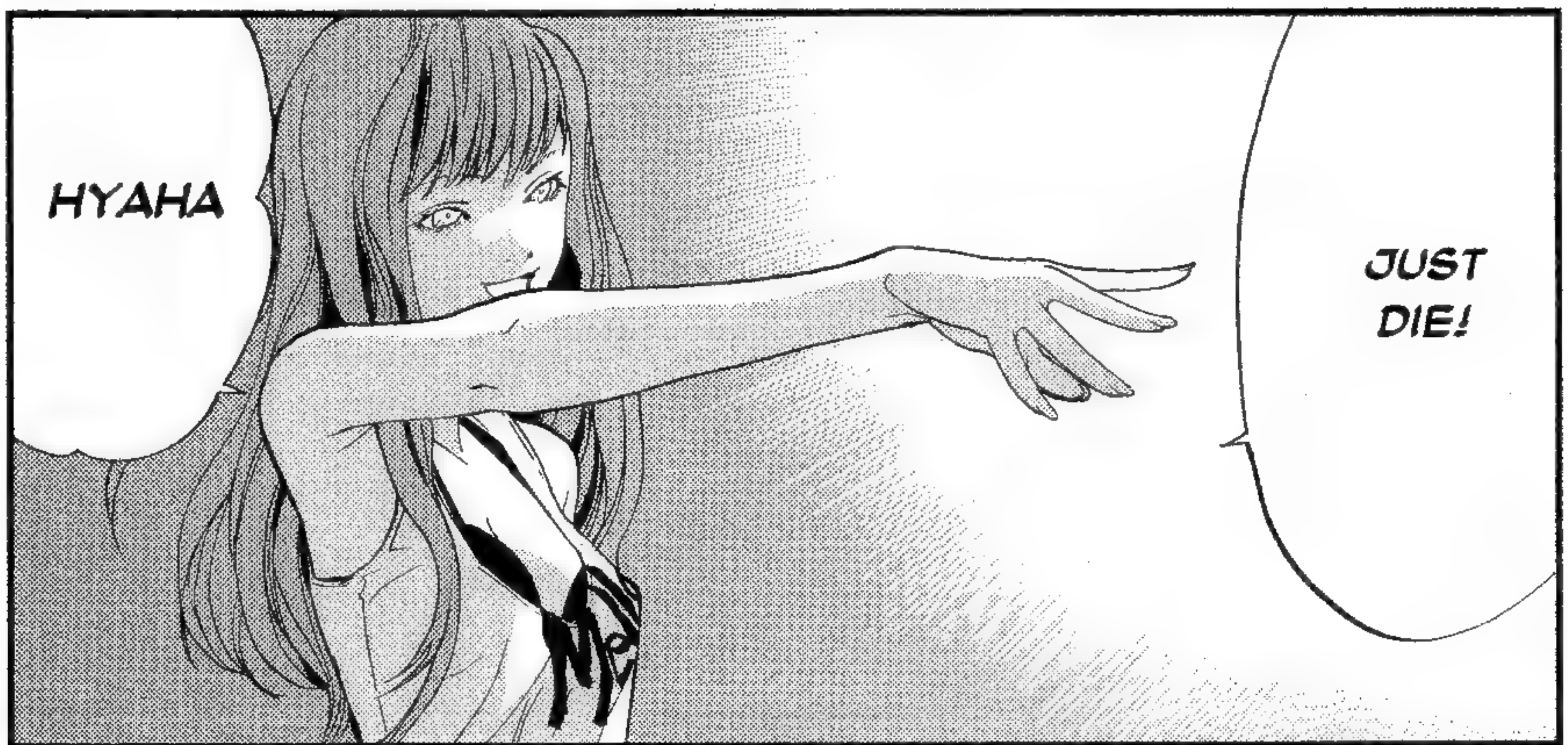
AND
ANNOYING.



POP

CRACK

HYAHHAHA



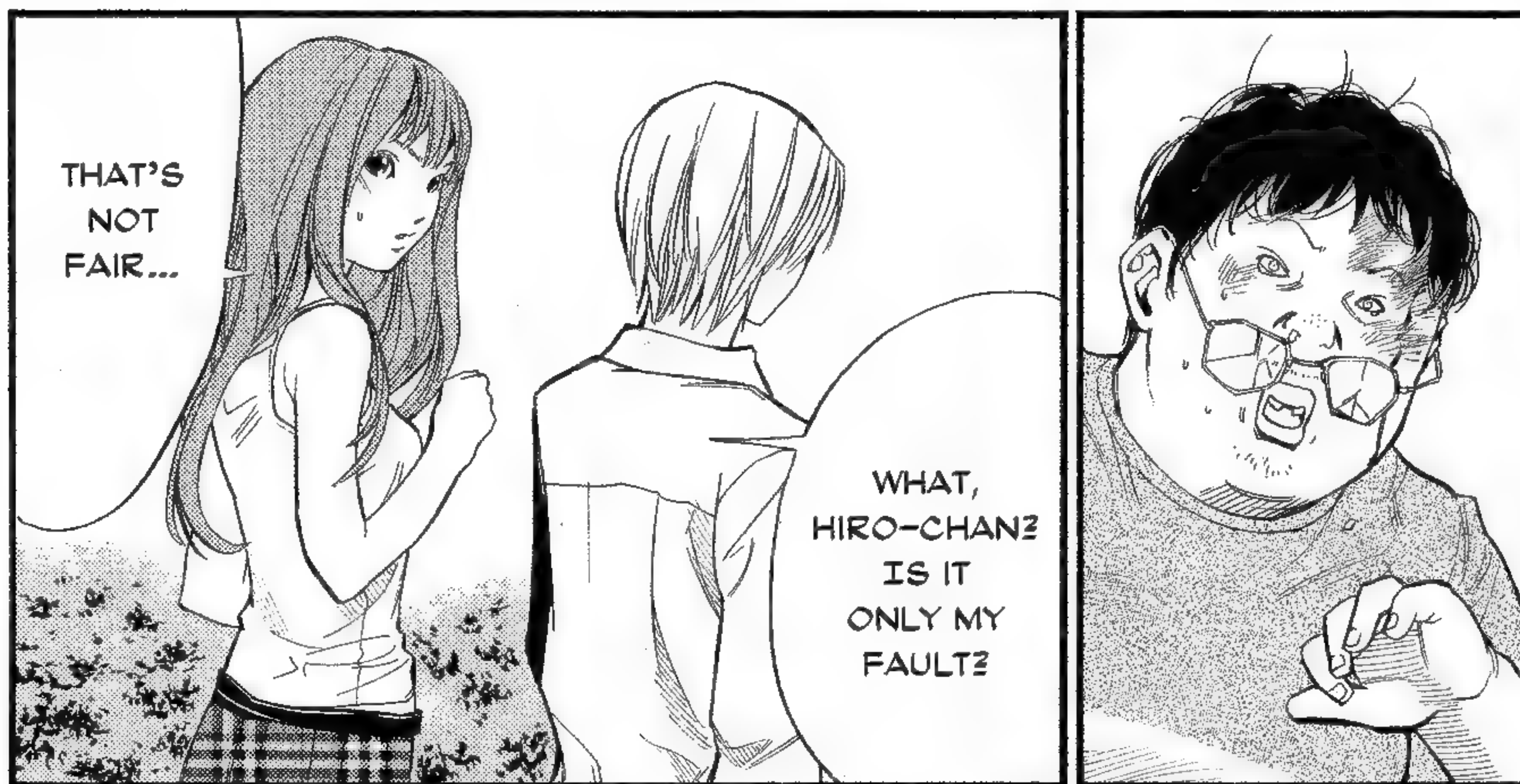
HYAHA

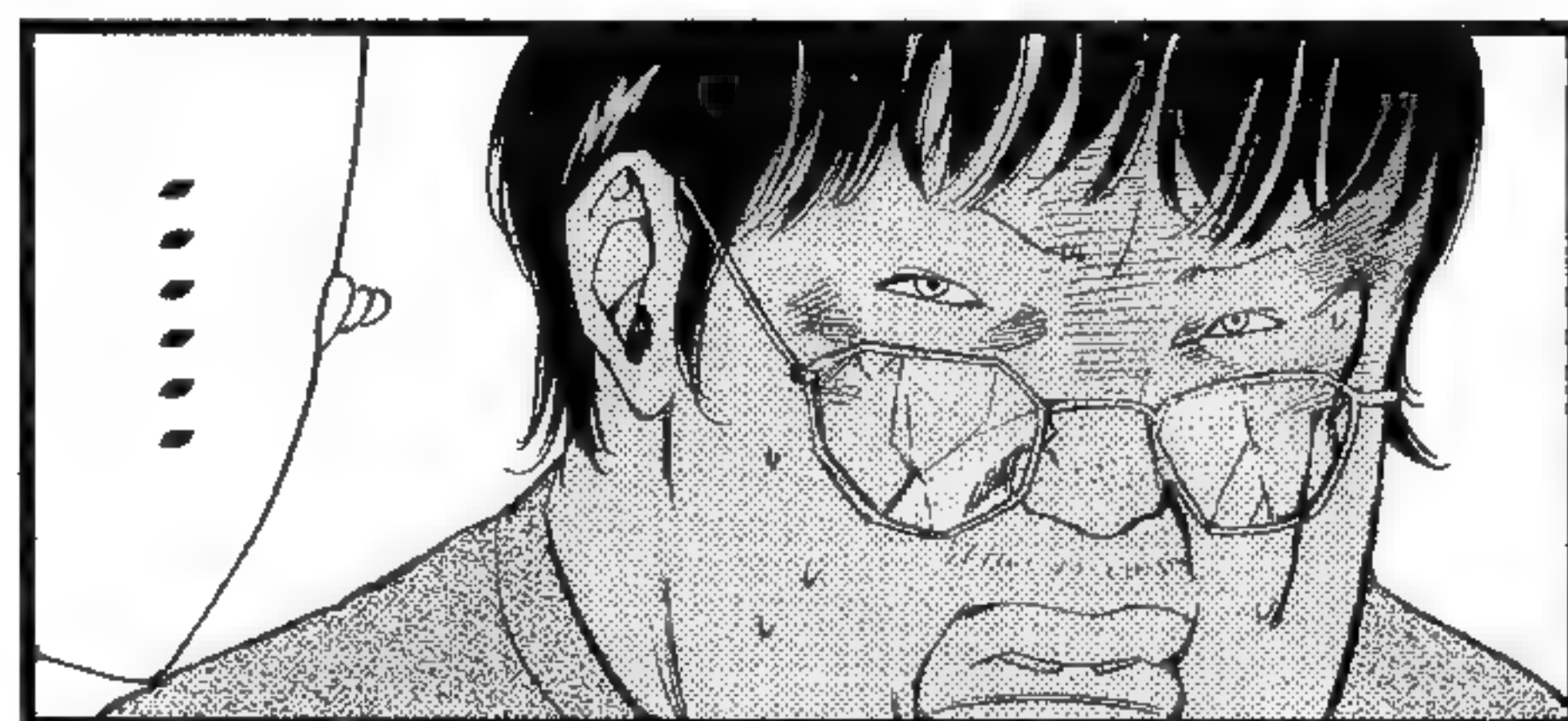
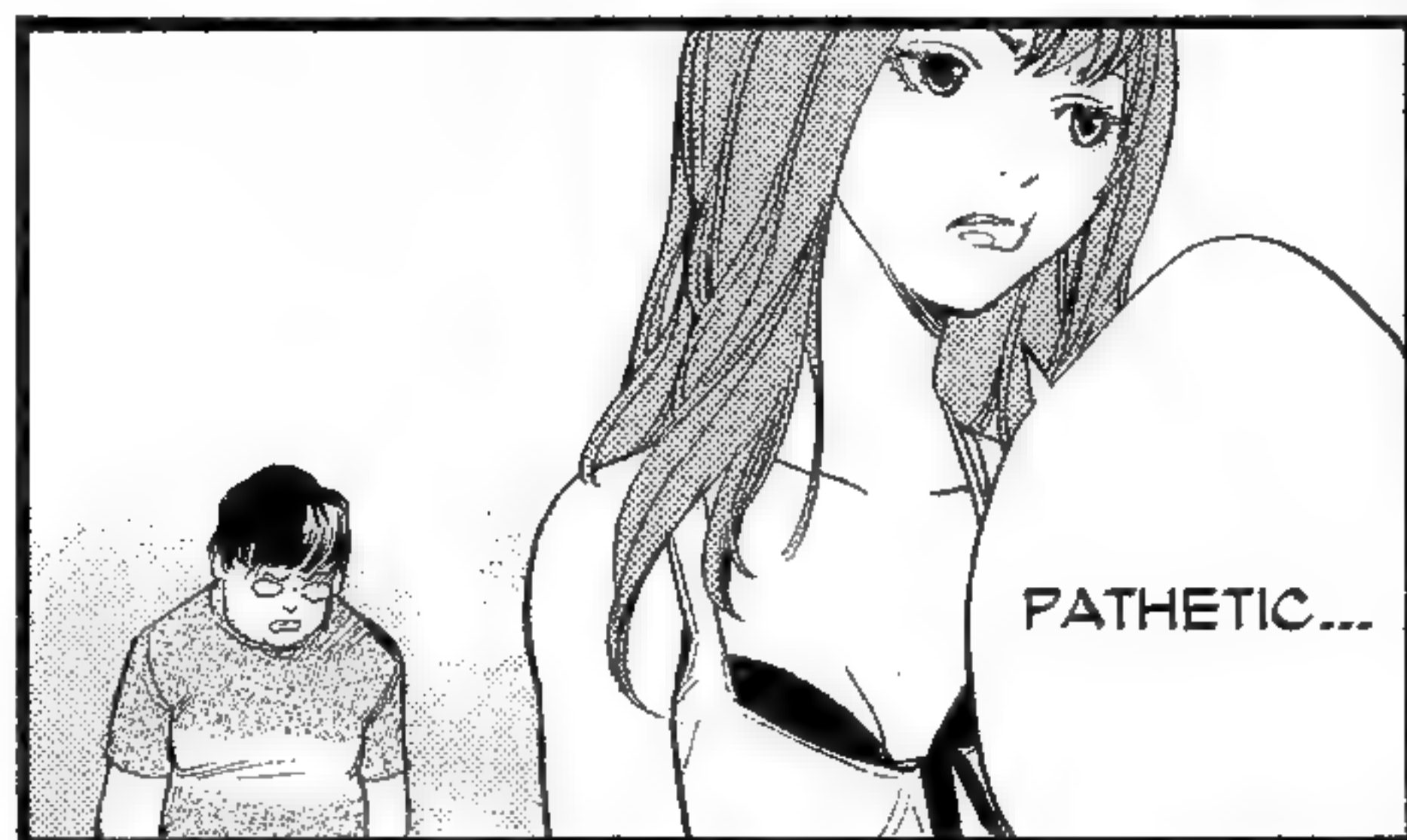
JUST
DIE!



GRAB



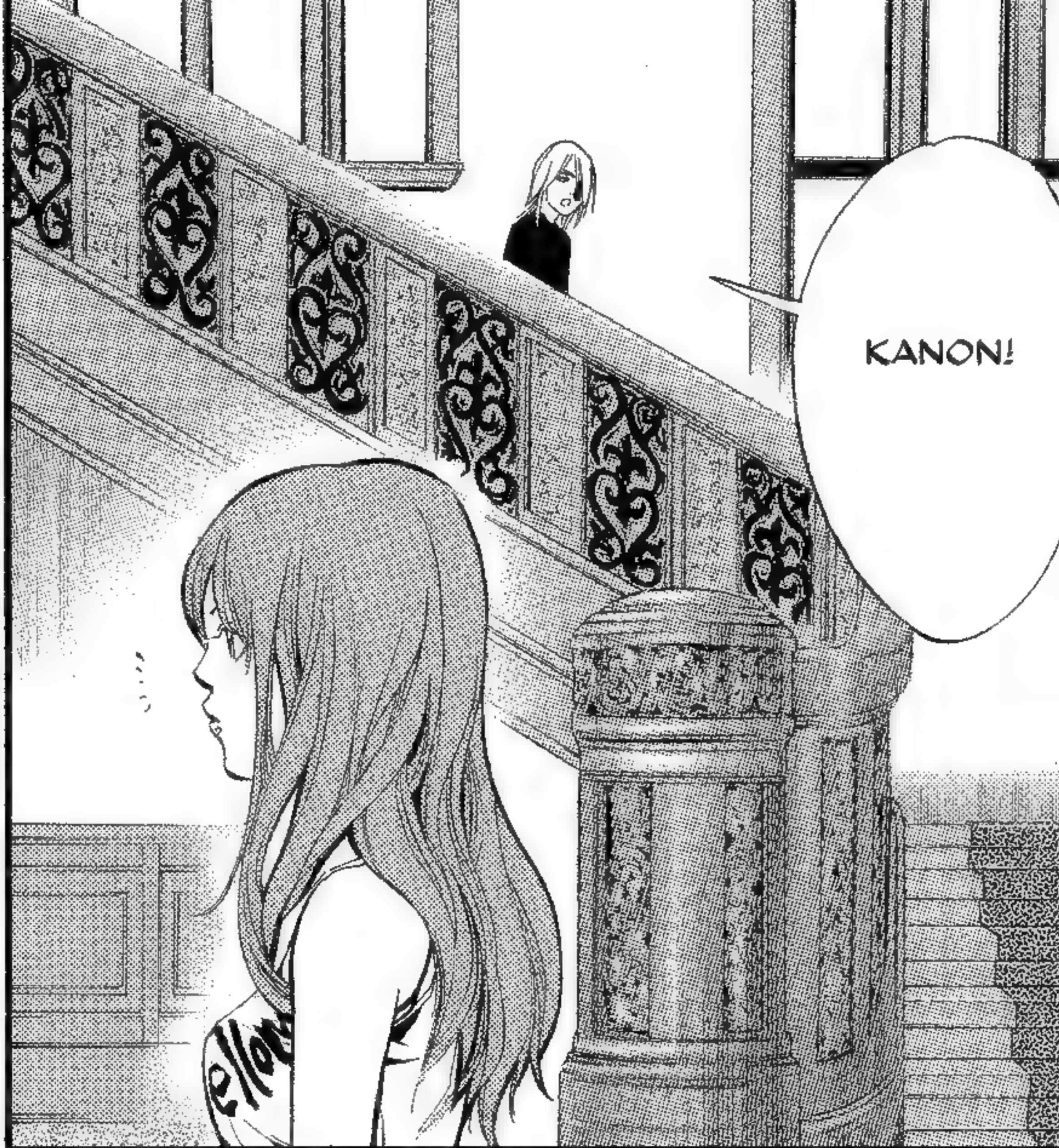




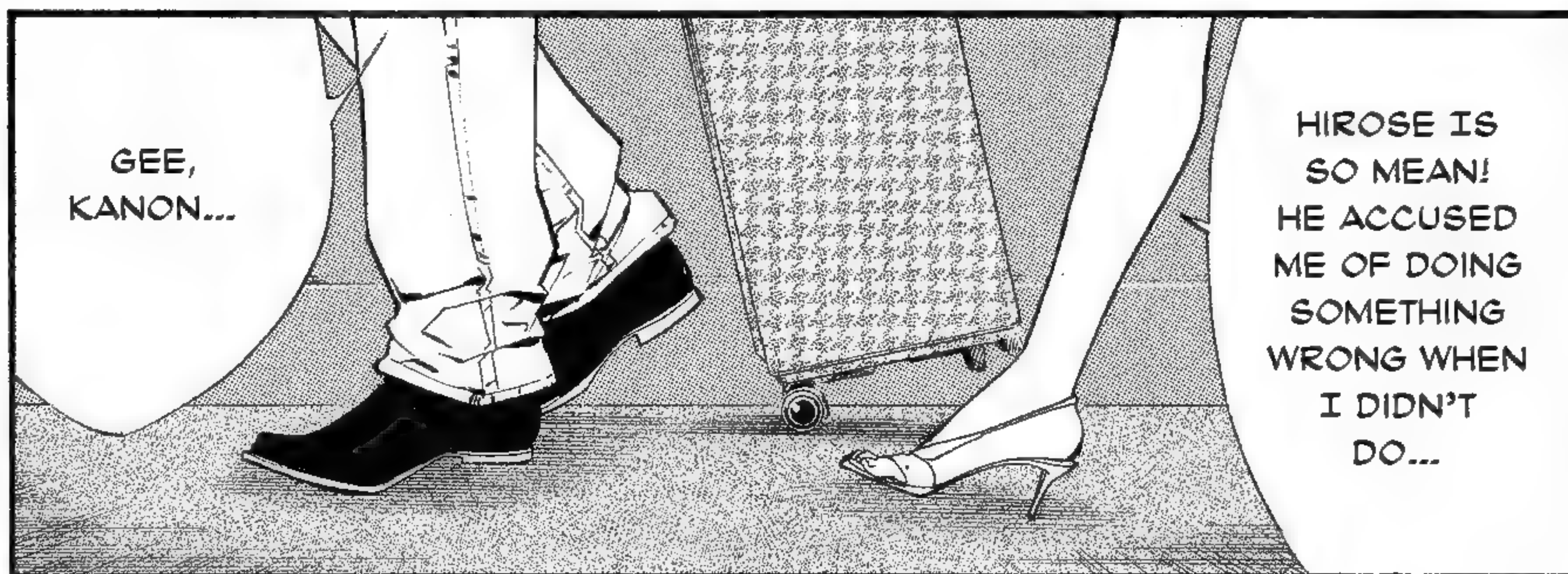


KEN-
CHAN!

LISTEN!



KANON!



GEE,
KANON...

HIROSE IS
SO MEAN!
HE ACCUSED
ME OF DOING
SOMETHING
WRONG WHEN
I DIDN'T
DO...



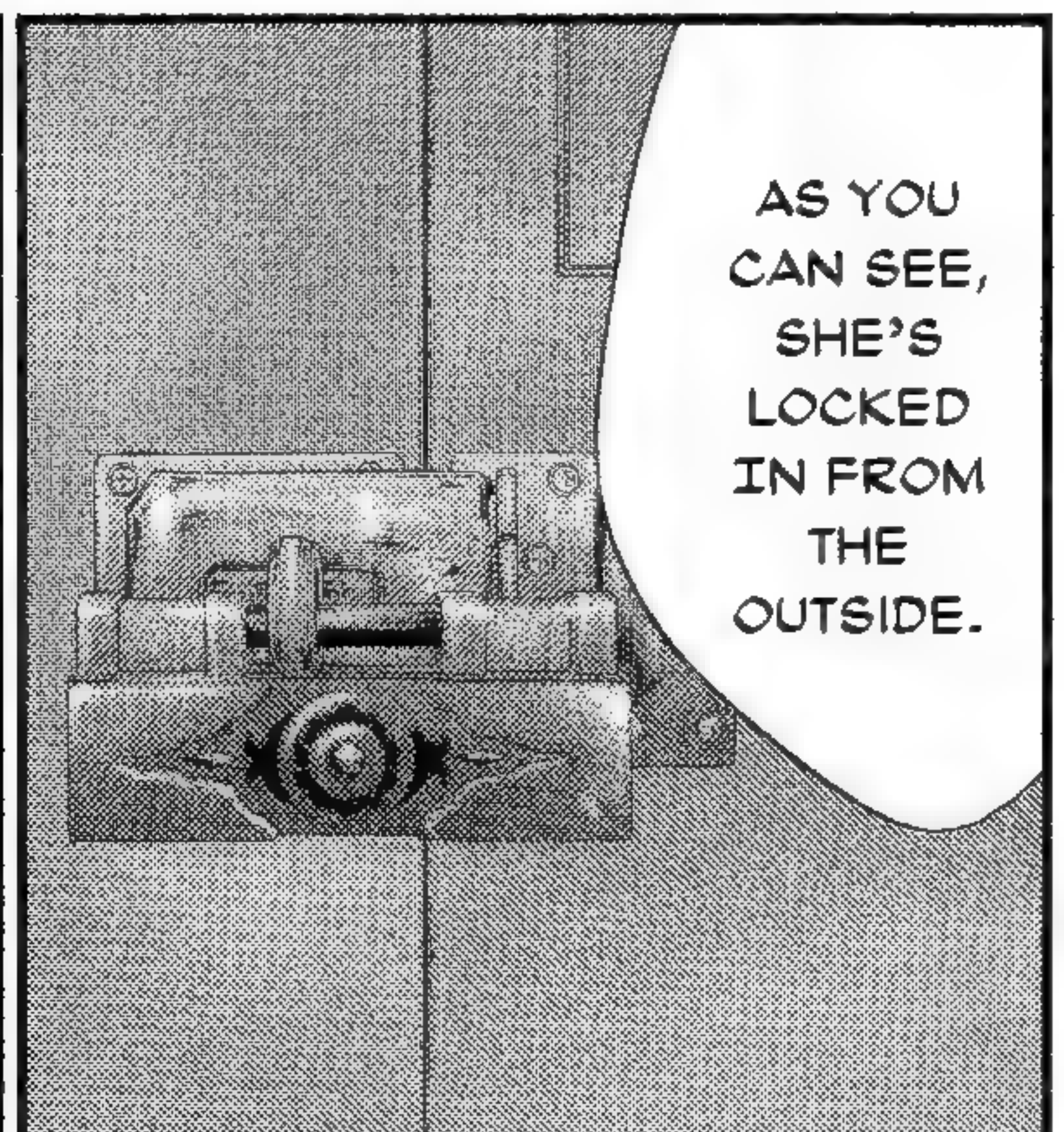
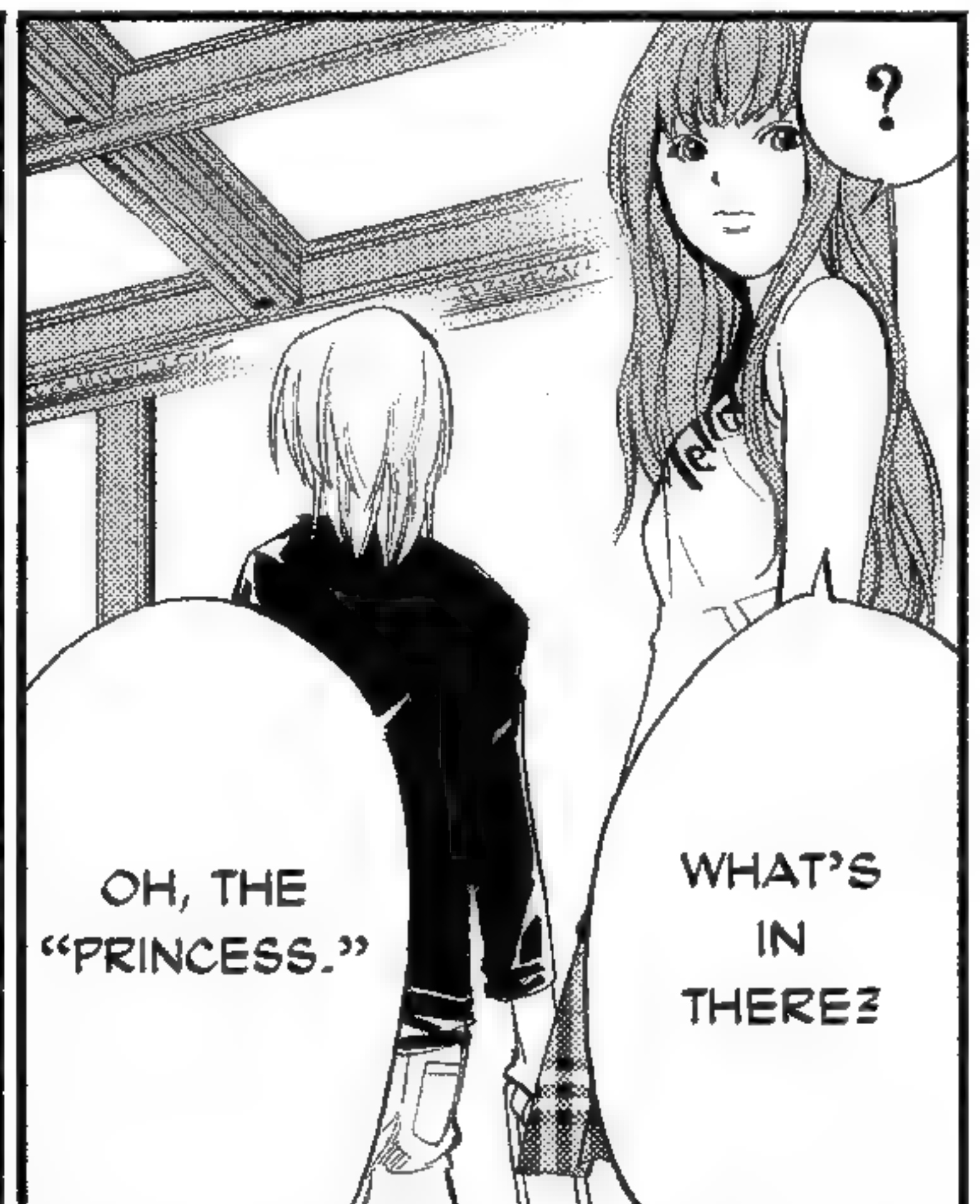
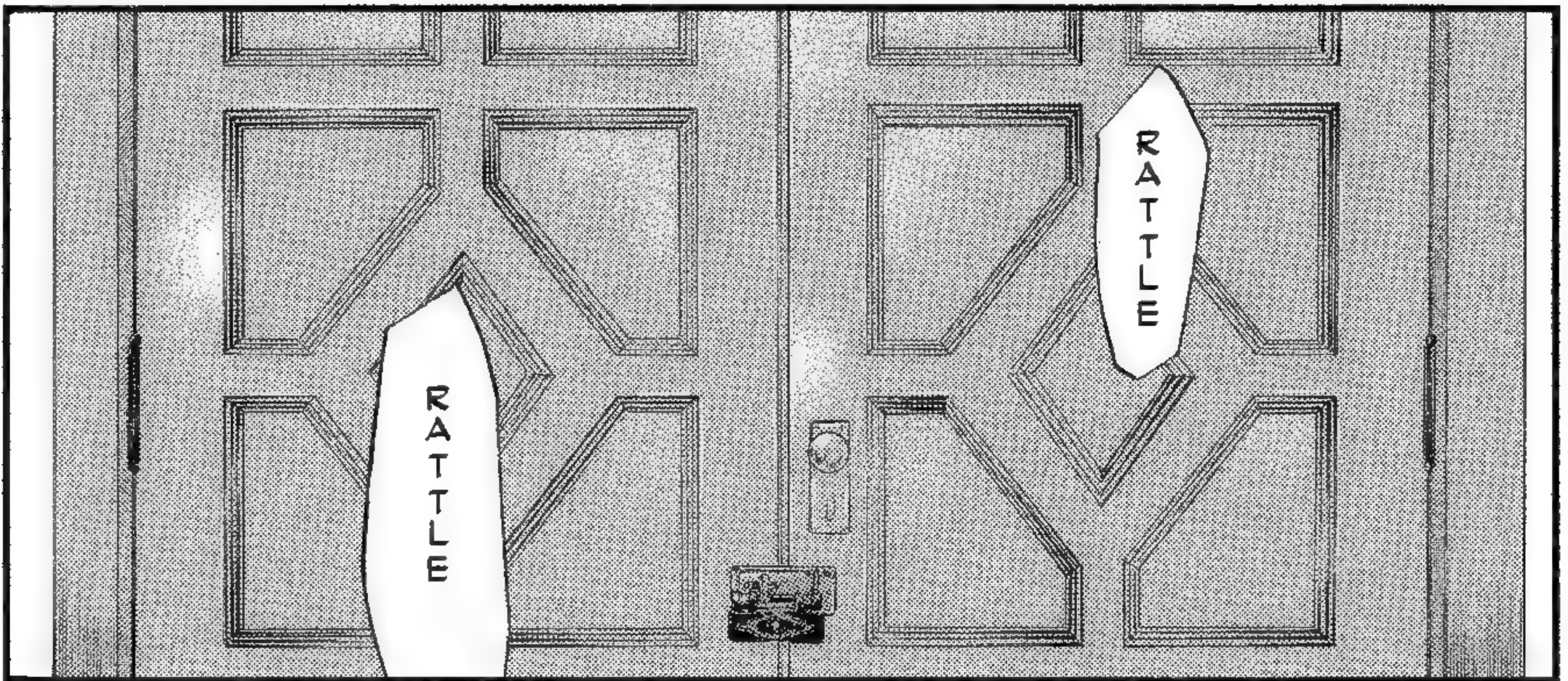
RATTLE

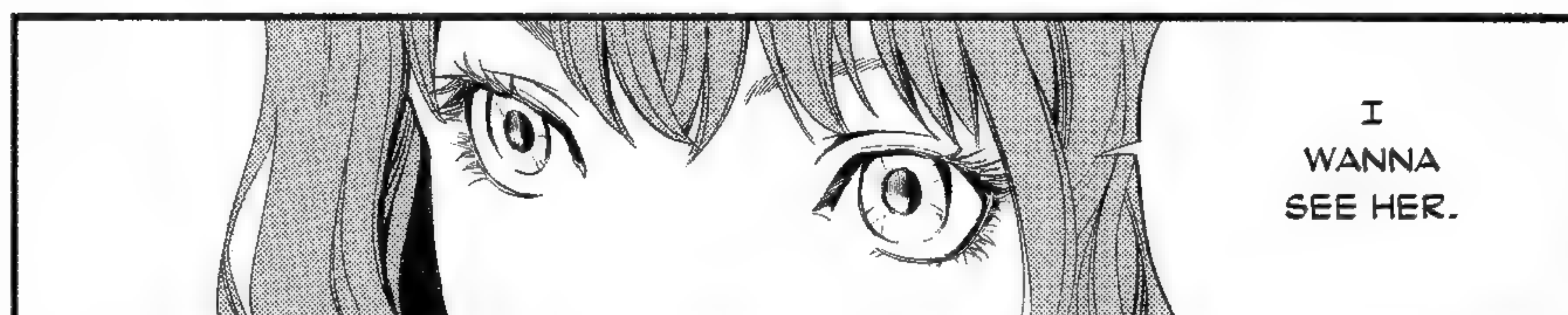
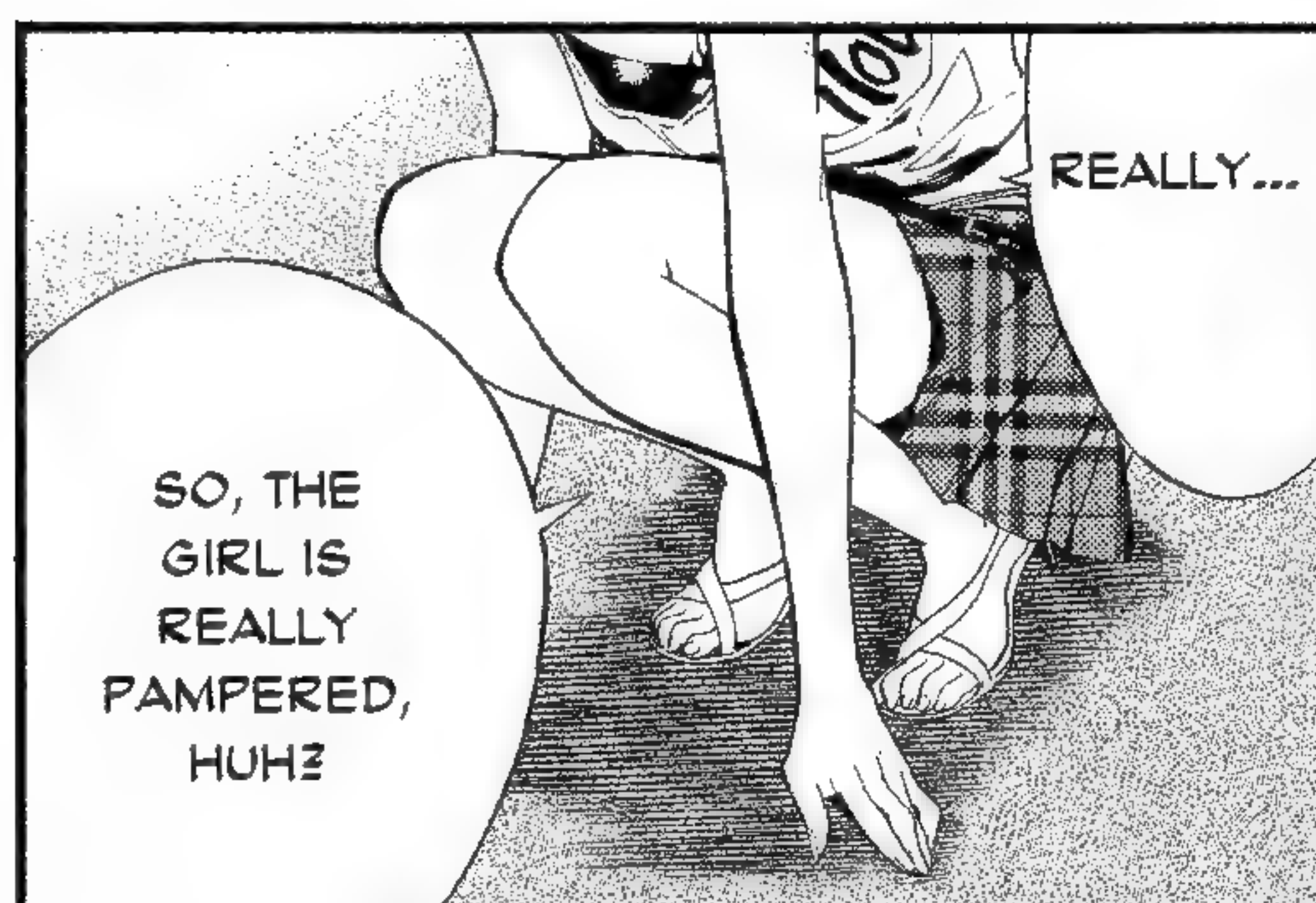
G-GOSH,
KEN-CHAN,
EVEN YOU
DON'T
TRUST
ME...

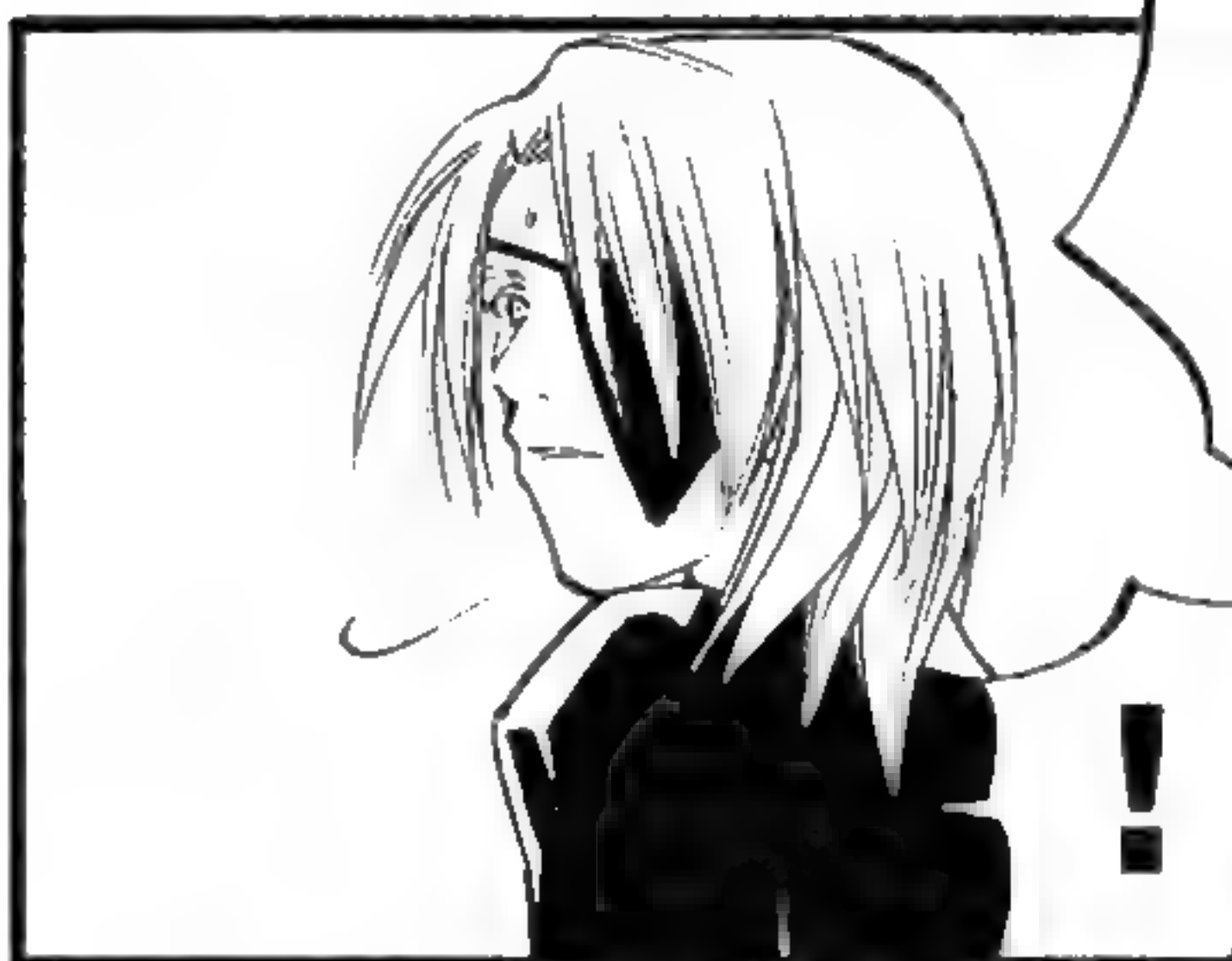
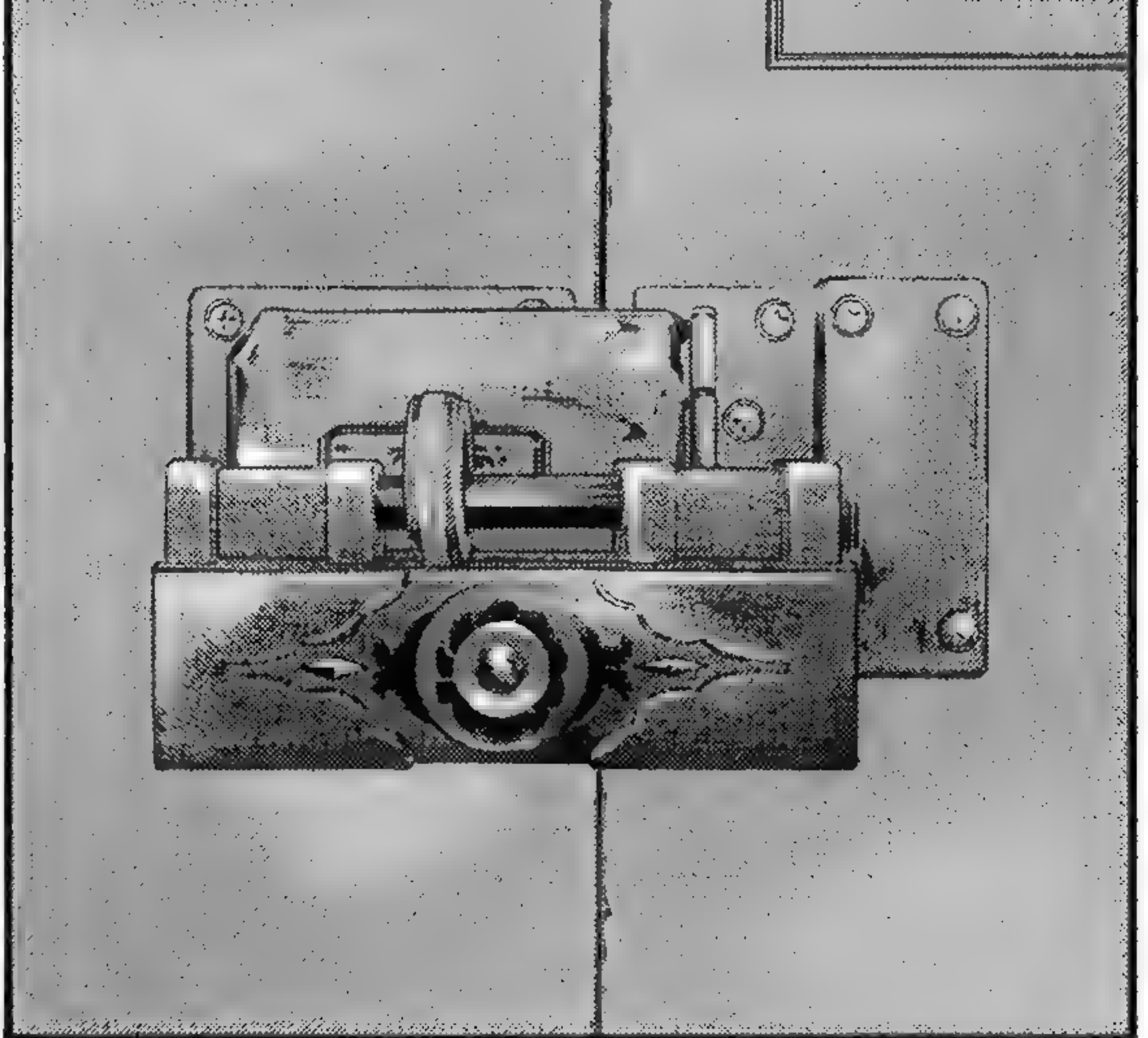
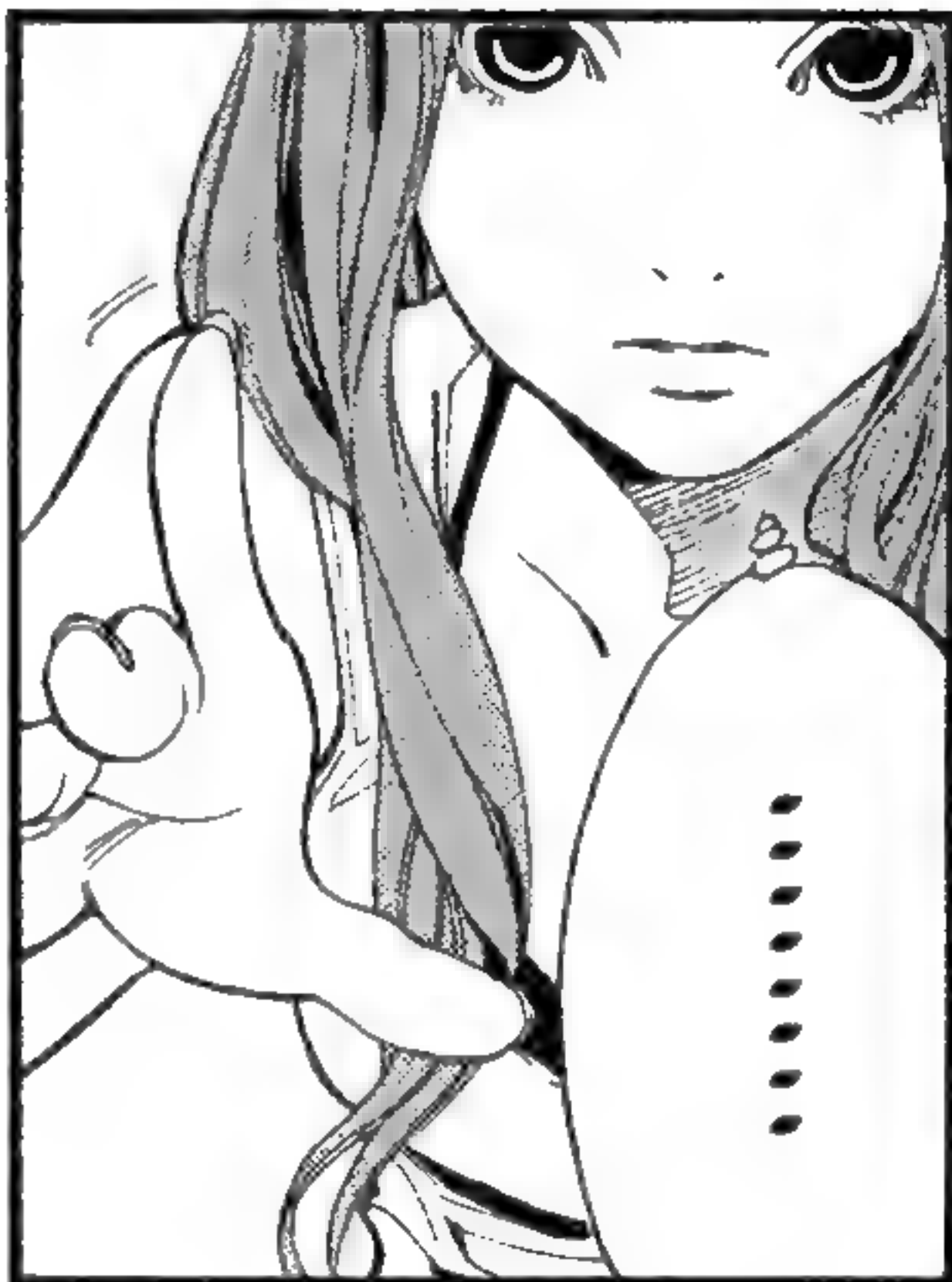
WHERE
HAVE YOU
BEEN ALL
THIS TIME?

I HOPE
YOU
DIDN'T DO
SOMETHING
STUPID OUT
IN TOWN.

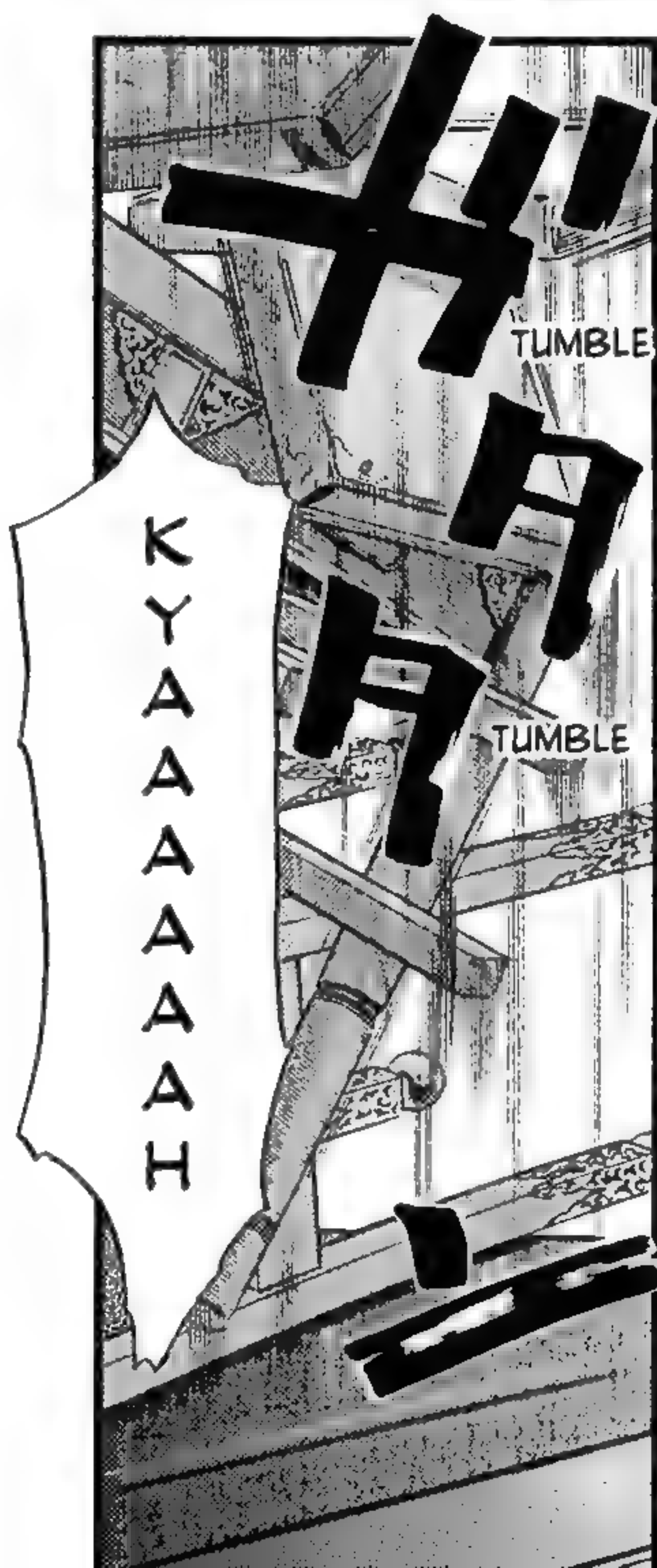








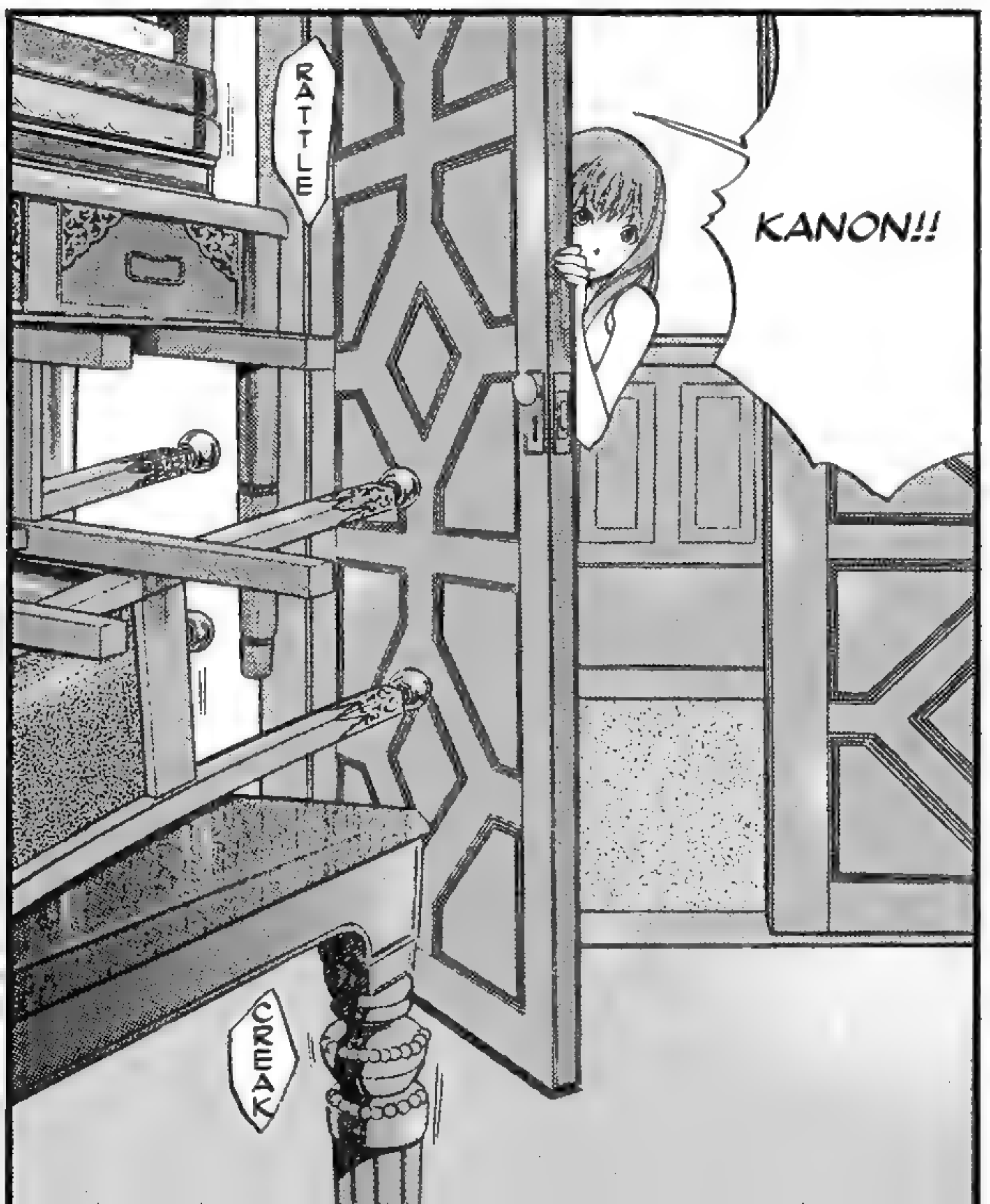
SKRACK



KYAAAAAAAAH

TUMBLE

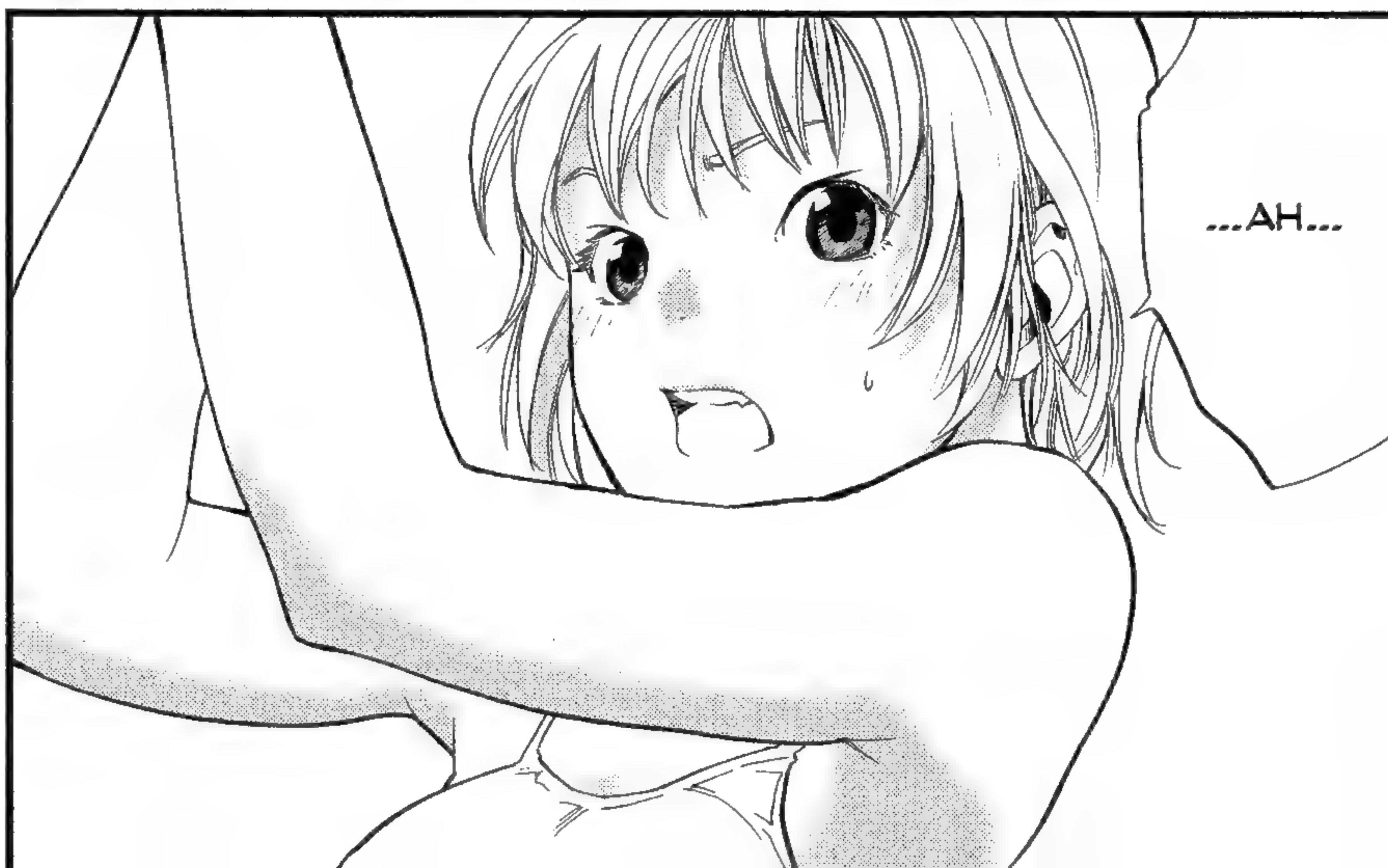
TUMBLE

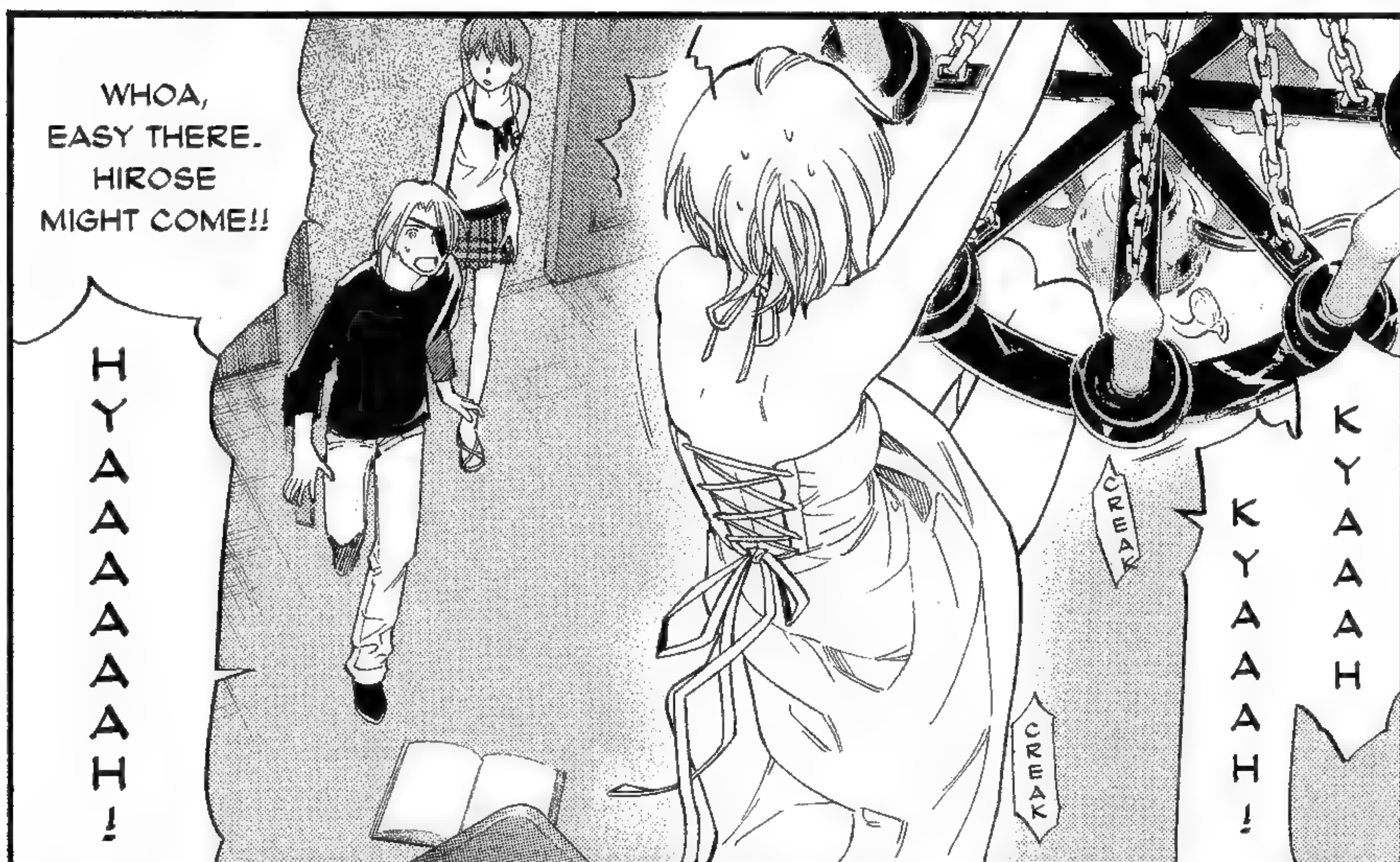


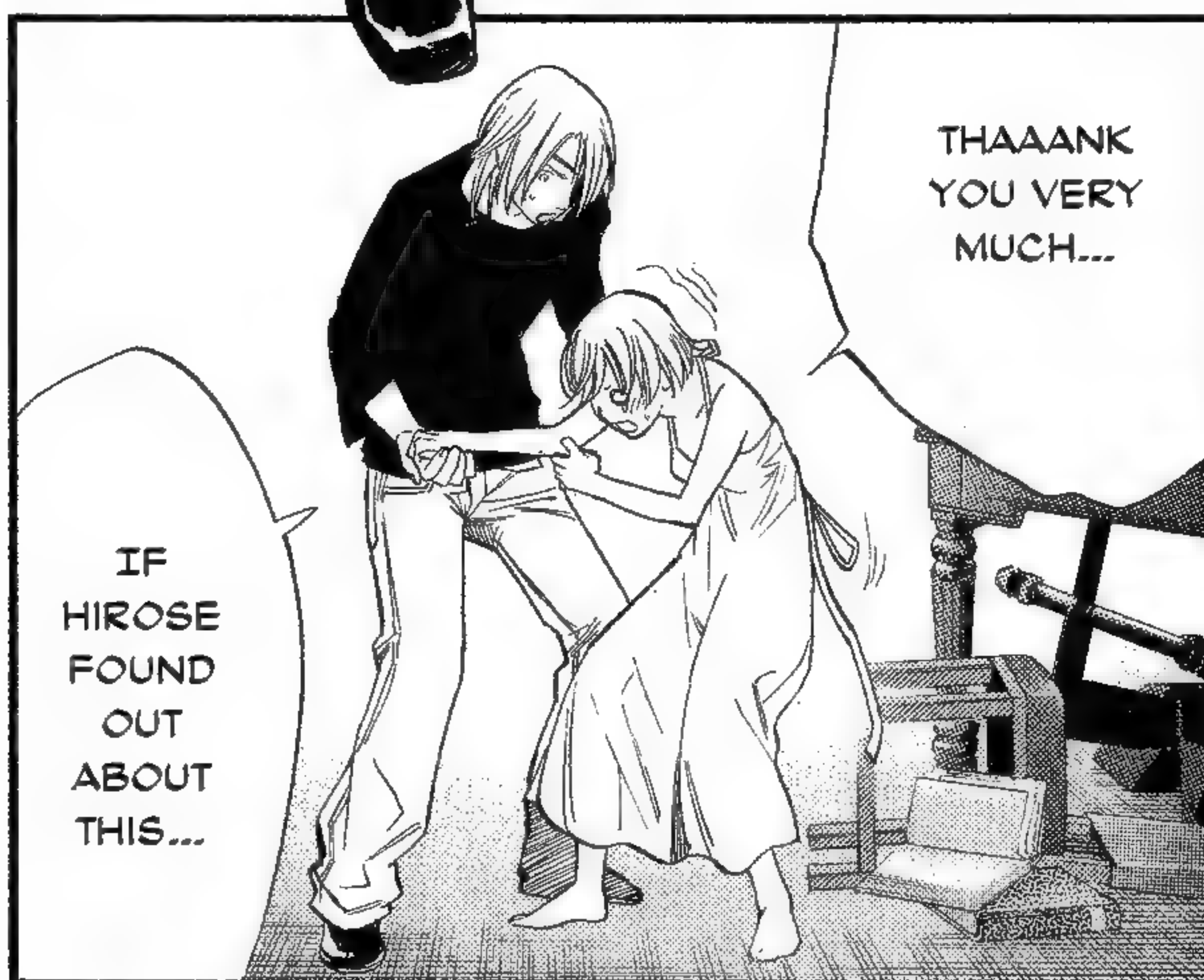
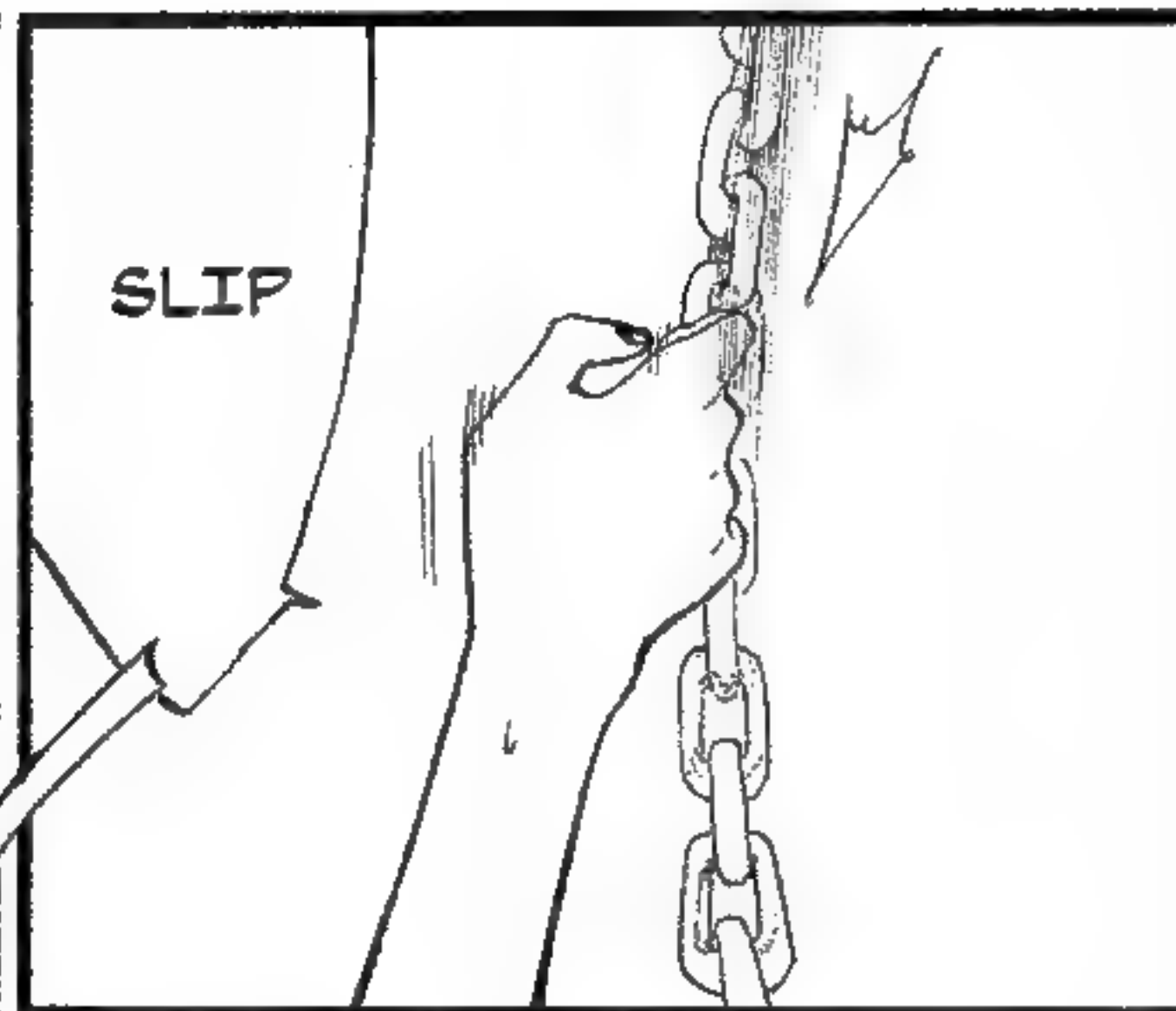
RATTLE

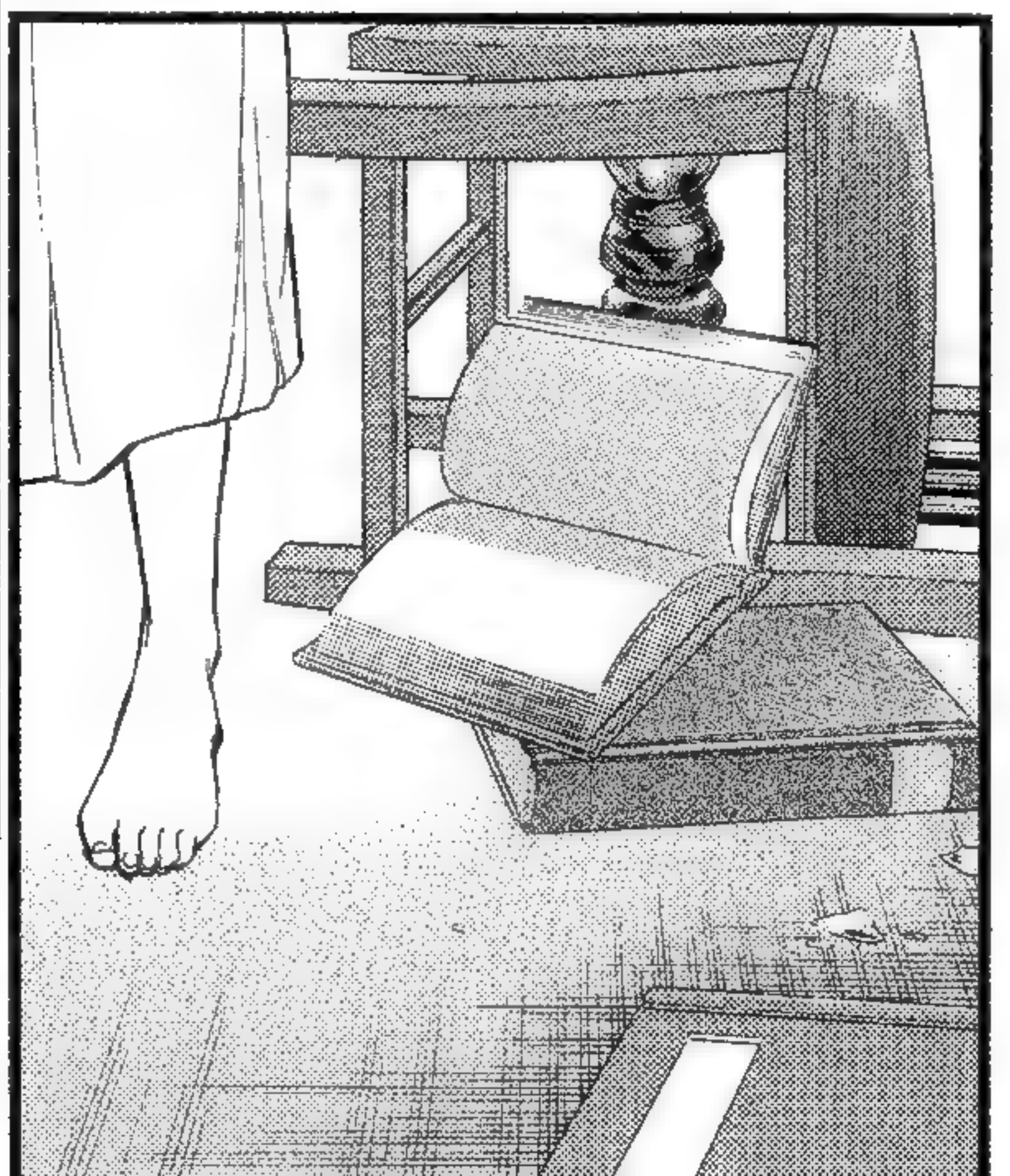
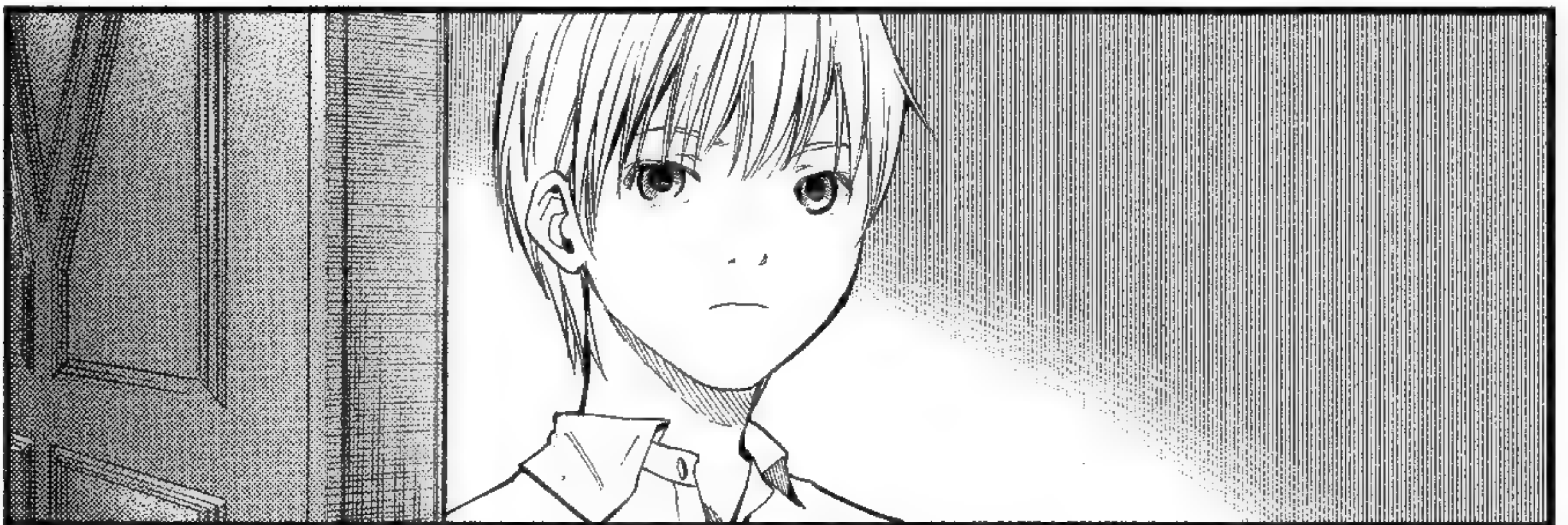
KANON!!

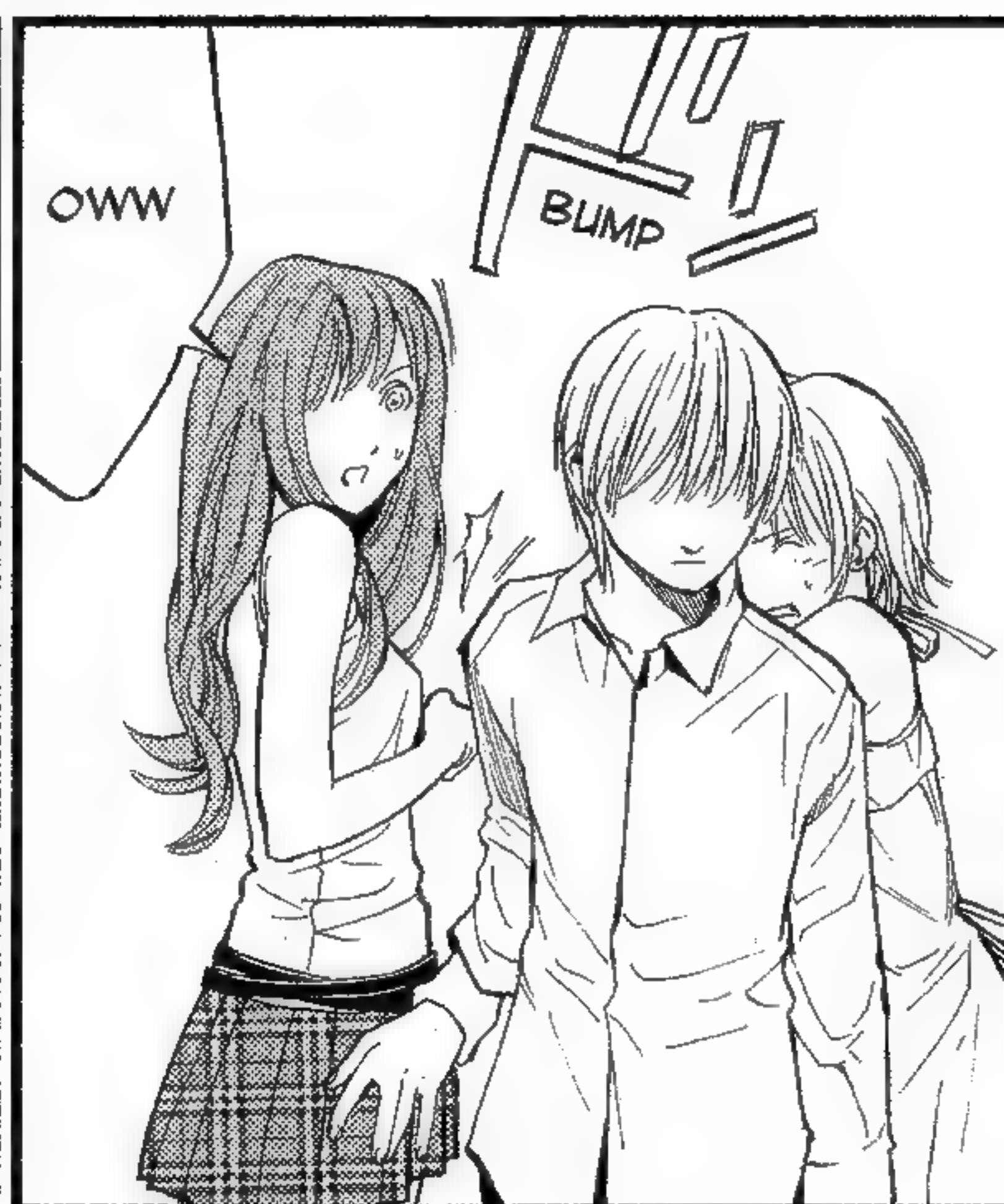
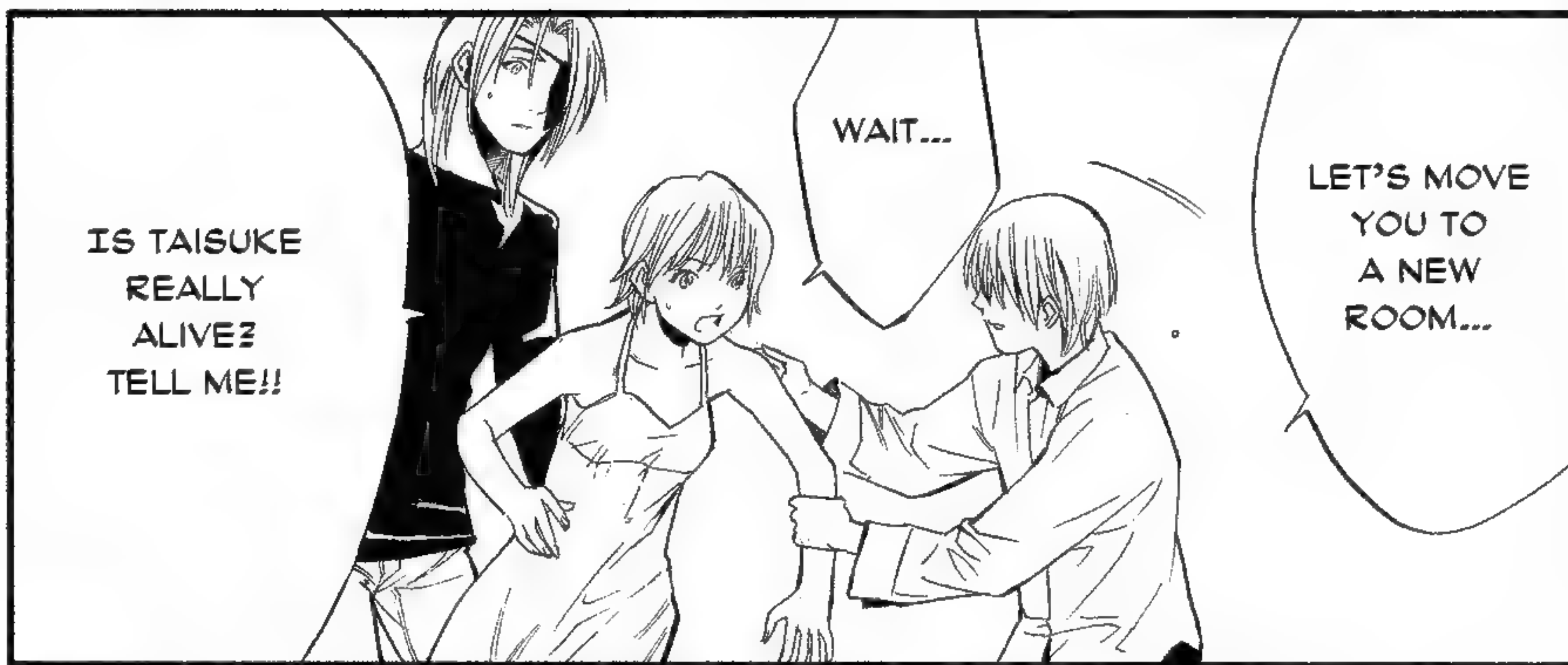
TUMBLE

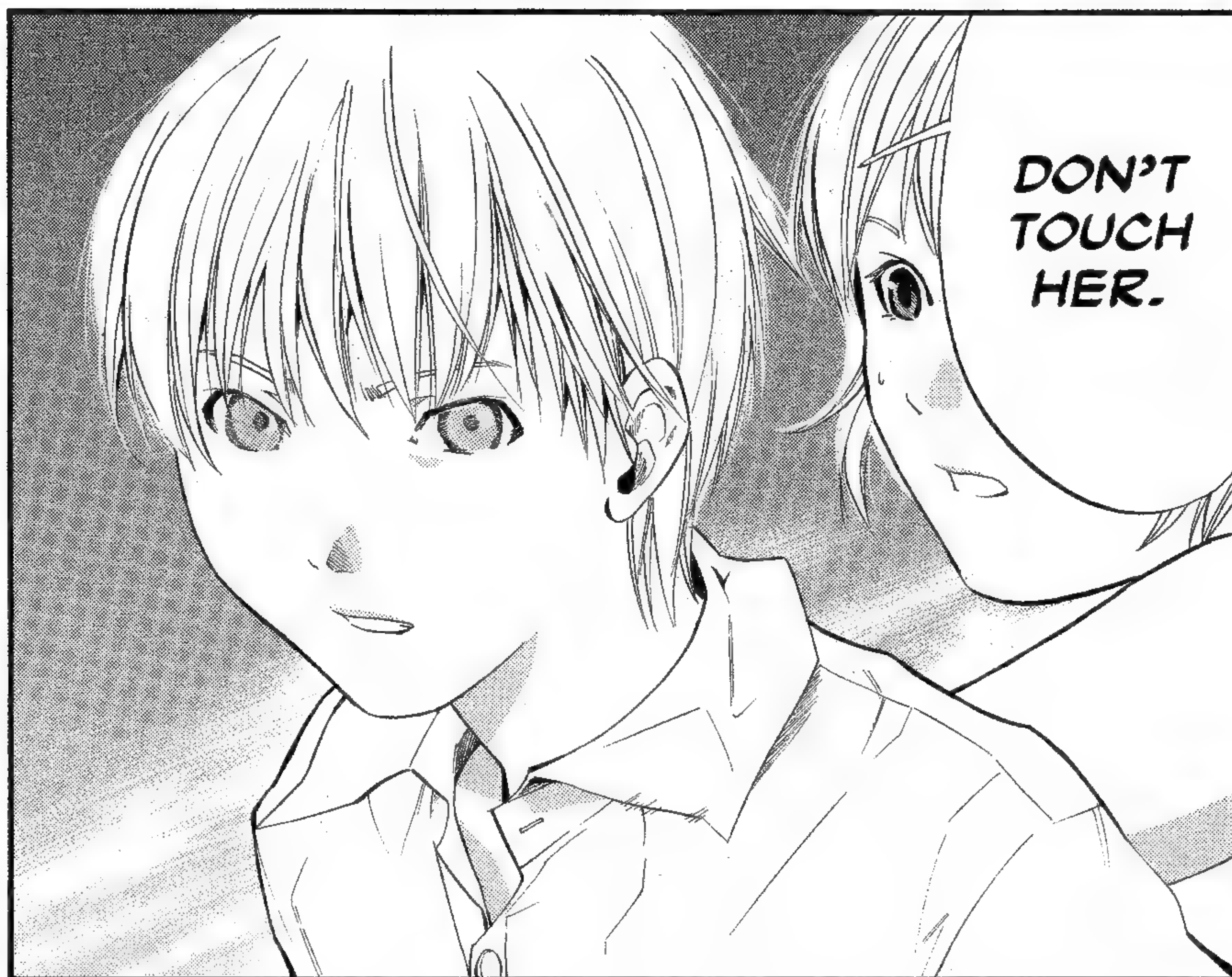
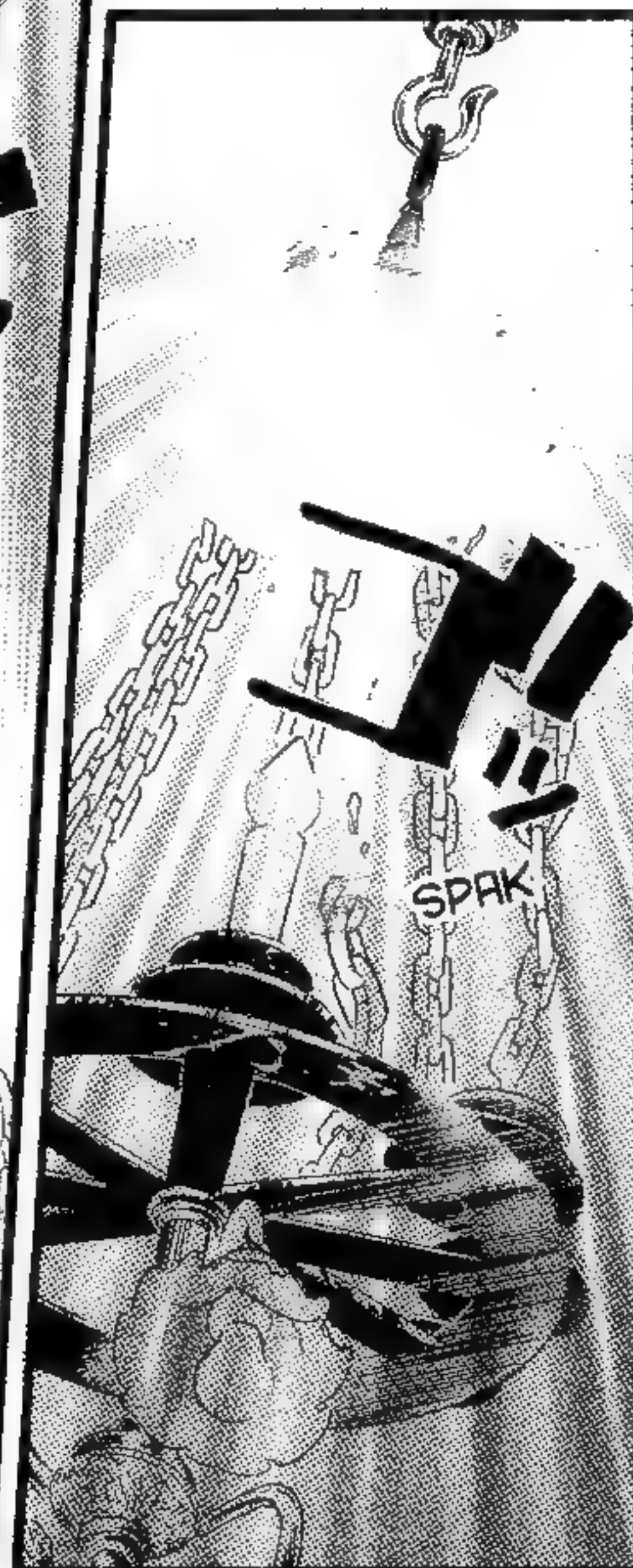


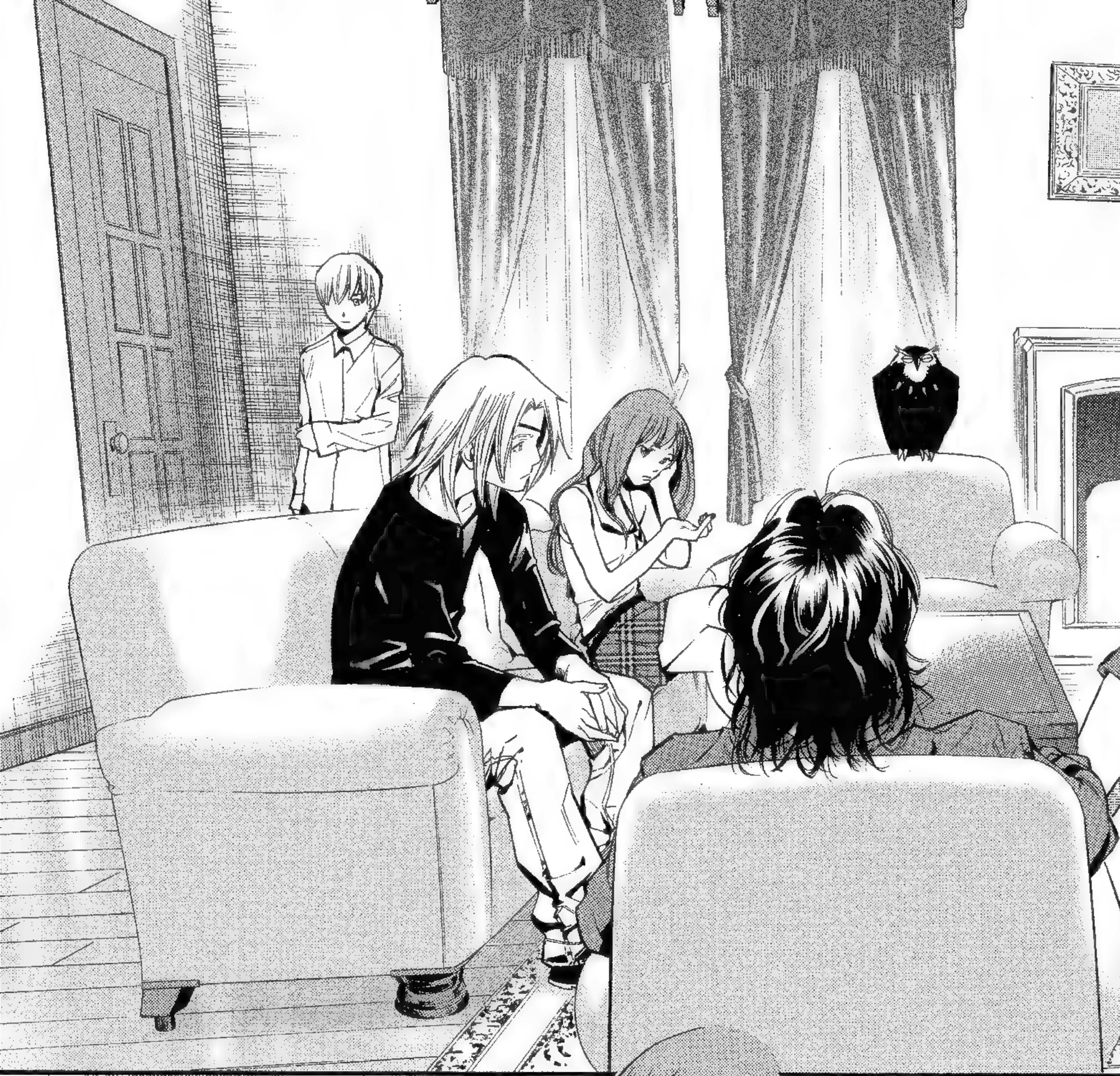










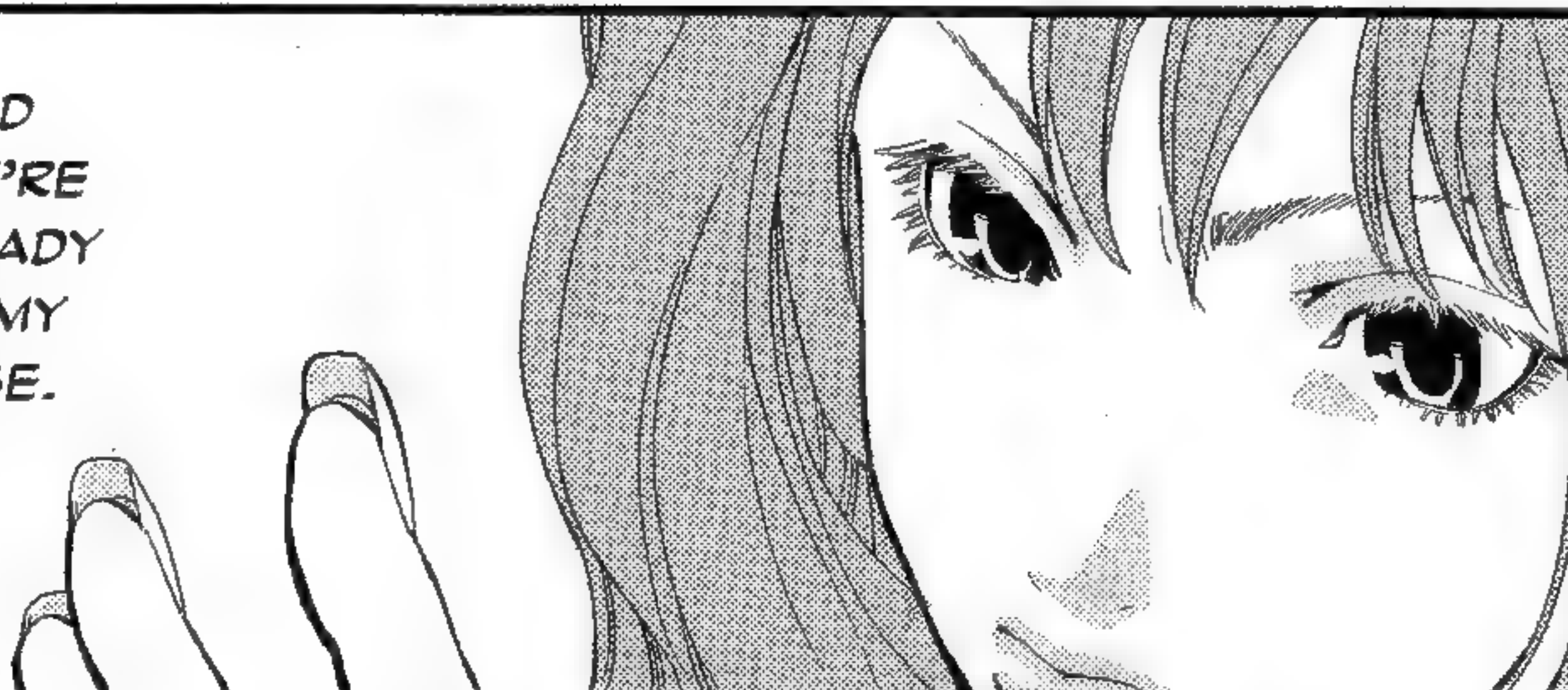


QUIT
MAKING
TROUBLE!!



WHY'D YOU
IGNORE MY
WARNING
AND OPEN
THE DOOR!?

AND
THEY'RE
ALREADY
ON MY
CASE.

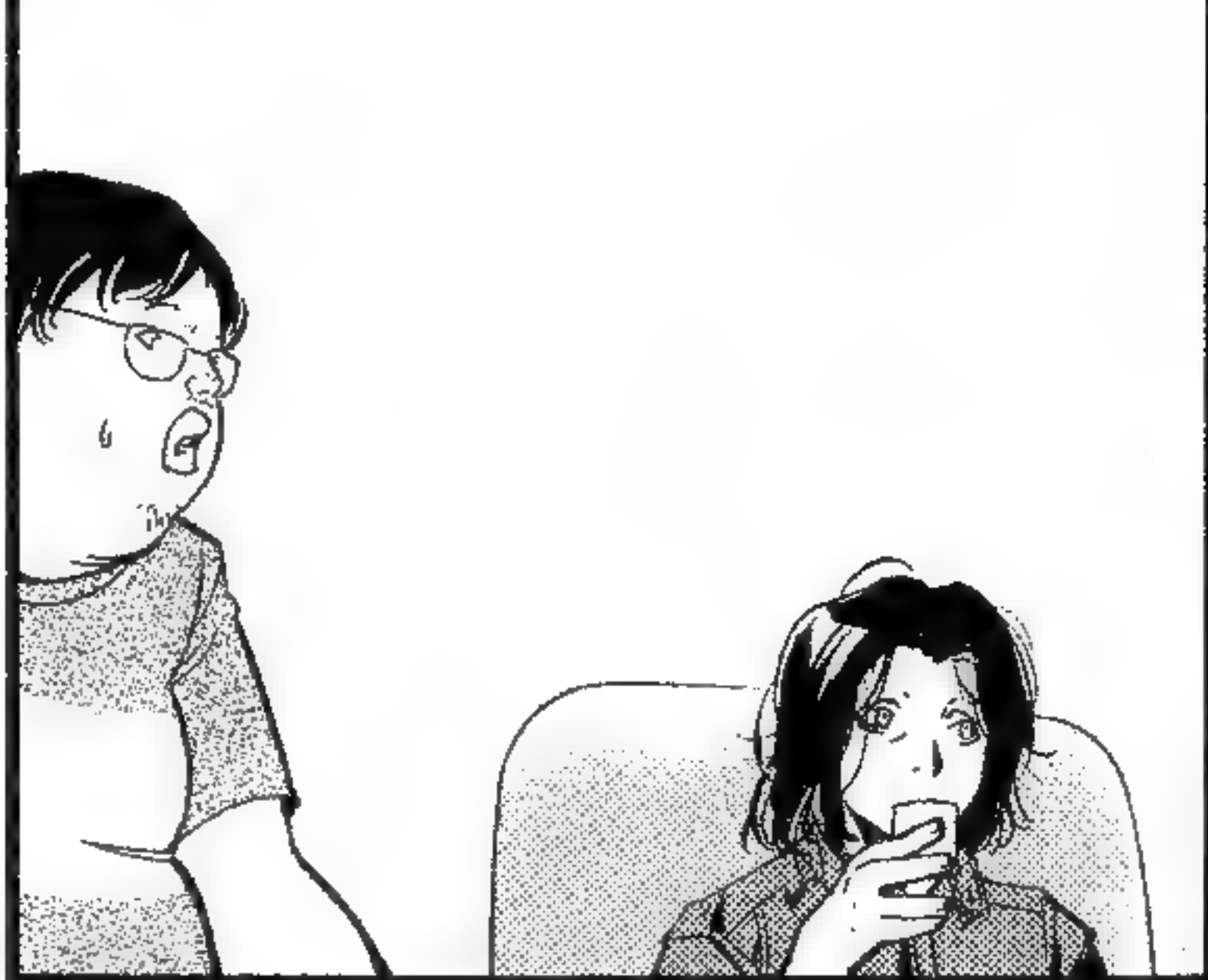


GEEZ,
I JUST
CAME
BACK...



THEY TREAT
HER BETTER
THAN ME!!





WHAT'S
THE
MATTER,
KANON-
KUN?



IT'S A WASTE
OF TIME IF WE
PAY ATTENTION
TO ALL HER
TEMPER
TANTRUMS.

KATTSUN,
IGNORE
HER.



VERY WELL,
LET'S
BEGIN.



UNFOR-
TUNATELY

WE
NEED TO
POSTPONE
ITS
RETRIEVAL.



YES.

IT WAS
AT THE
LAKE,
BUT...

LAKE?

YESTERDAY,
I WENT TO
THE LAKE TO
SEE "ACRO'S
HEART"...



WHY...?

MUNCH

POSTPONE?

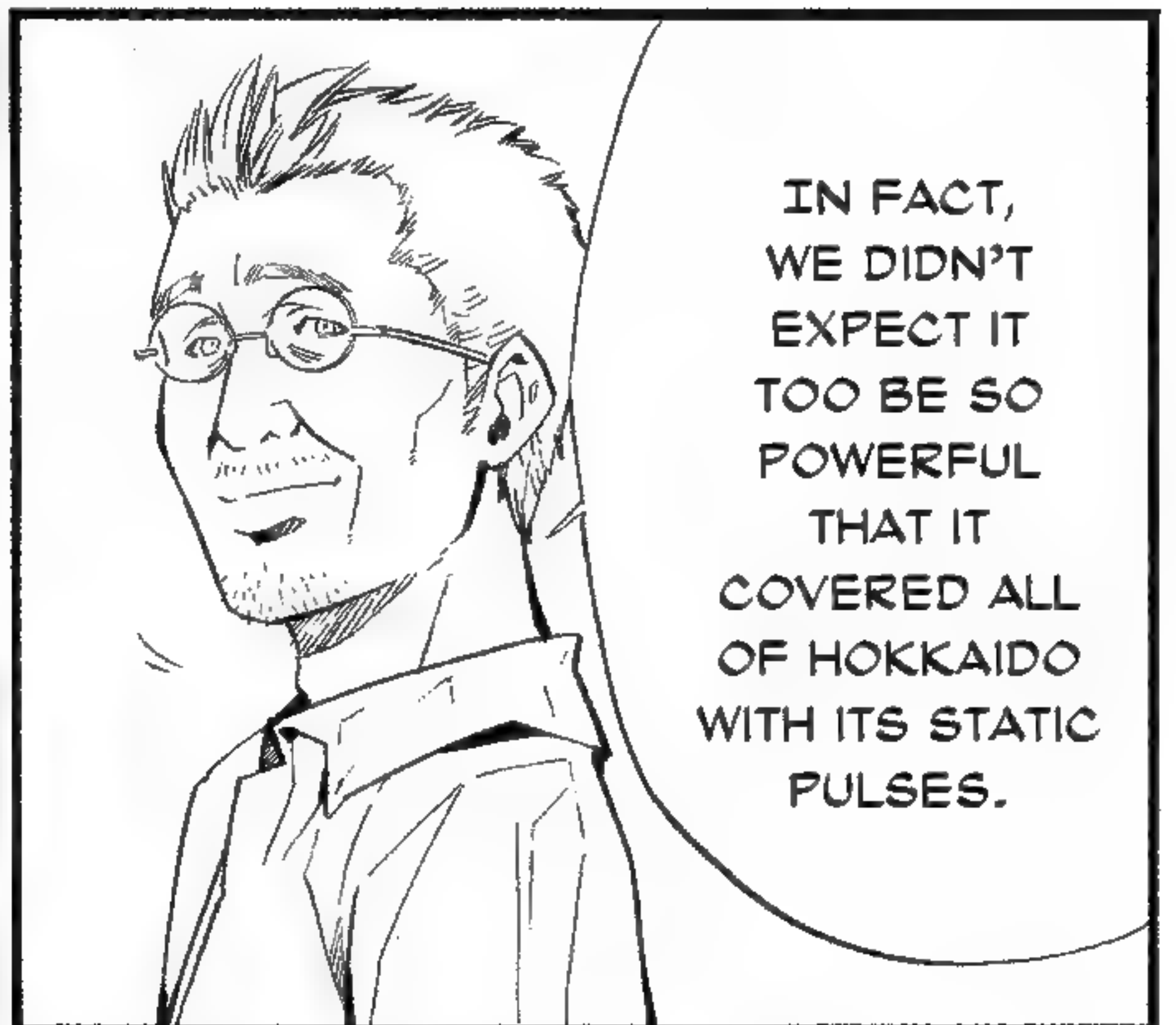


EVEN IF
IT WAS
RETRIEVED,
IT WOULD
BE TOO
DIFFICULT TO
STABILIZE IT.

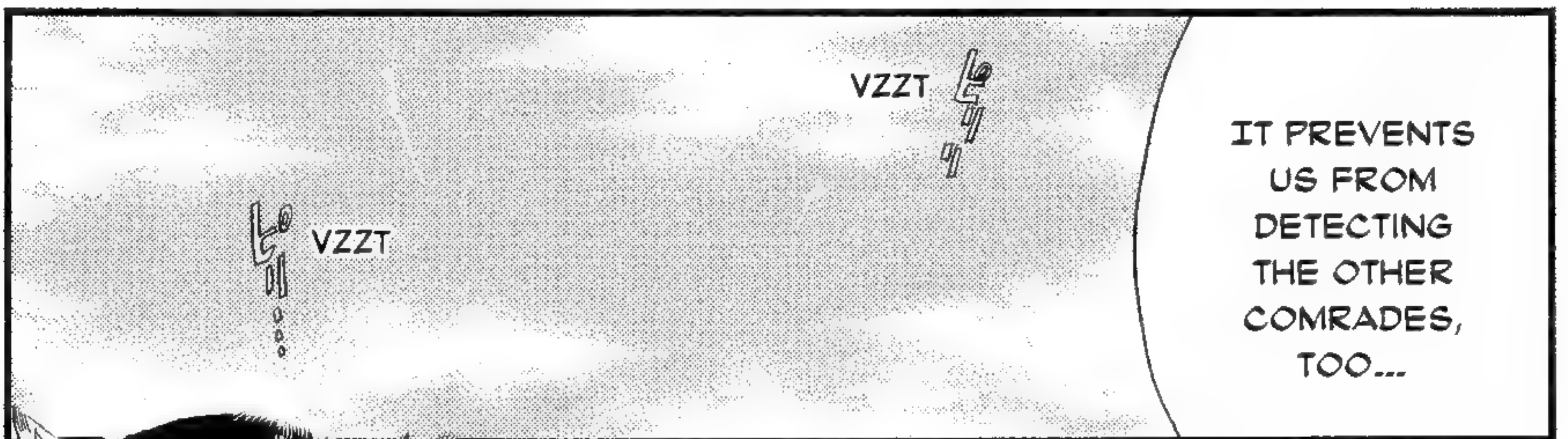
IT WAS
MORE
POWERFUL
THAN
EXPECTED.



BUMMER. I
THOUGHT IF
WE RETRIEVED
THAT THING,
THIS ANNOYING
STATIC WOULD
GO AWAY...



IN FACT,
WE DIDN'T
EXPECT IT
TOO BE SO
POWERFUL
THAT IT
COVERED ALL
OF HOKKAIDO
WITH ITS STATIC
PULSES.

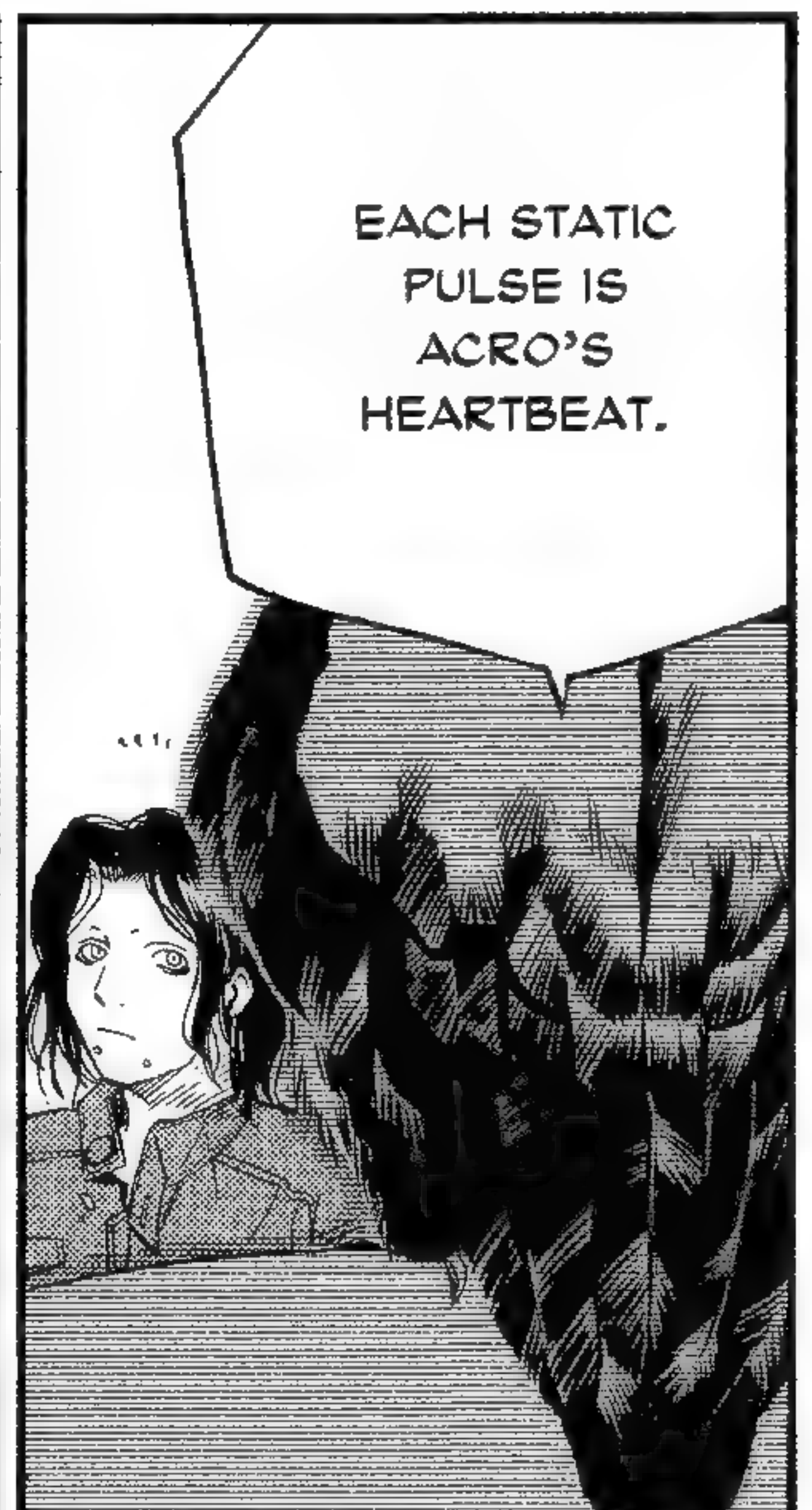


IT PREVENTS
US FROM
DETECTING
THE OTHER
COMRADES,
TOO...



IT IS
CALLING
OUT

TO THE OTHER
HALF OF "THE
ONE" SO THEY
CAN REUNITE.



EACH STATIC
PULSE IS
ACRO'S
HEARTBEAT.



IT IS THE
ULTIMATE
LIFE
FORM

BEYOND
ALL
TIME.



UHH...

WHAT
THE
HECK
IS "THE
ONE"?

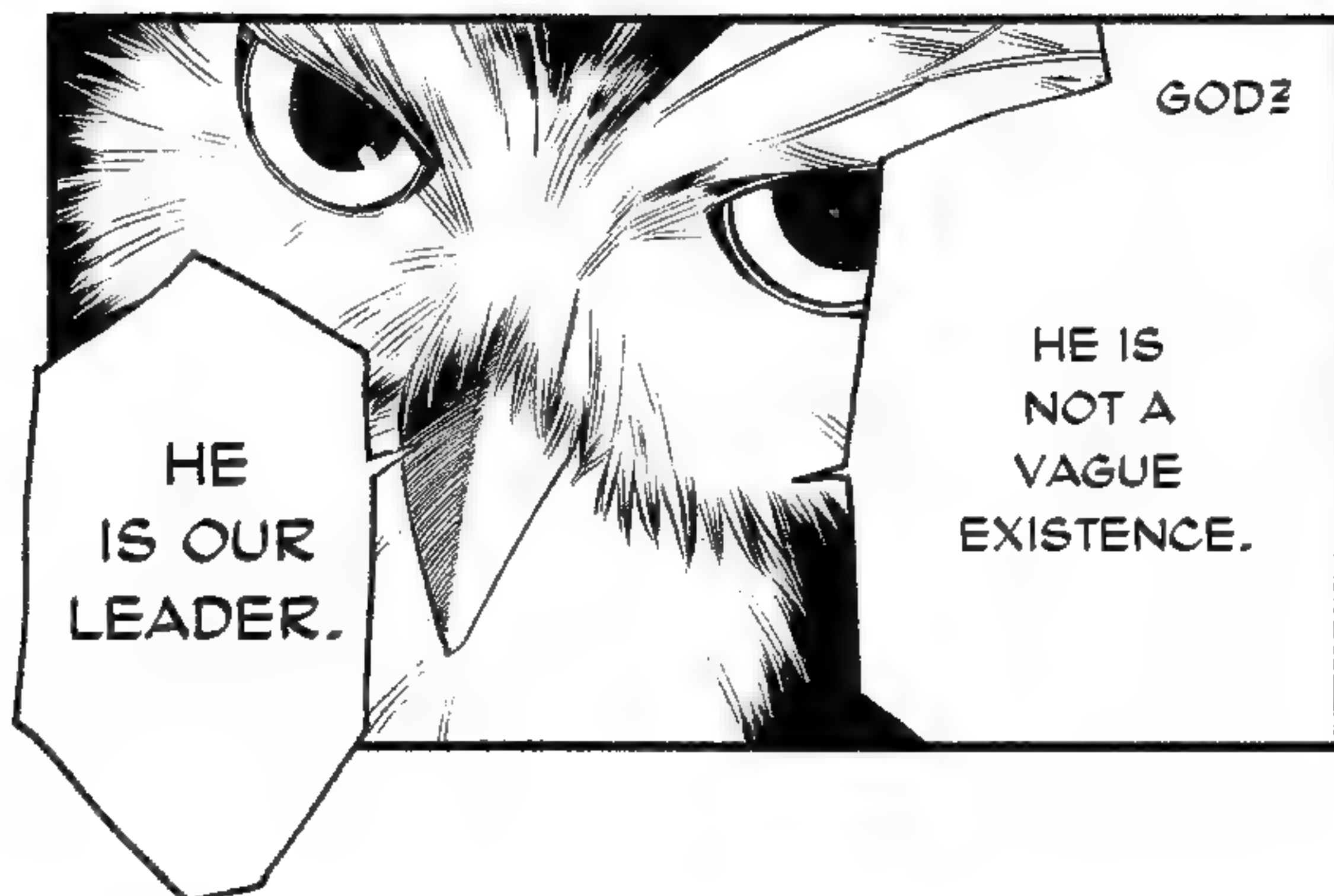


LOOK
WHO'S
TALKING.

HEY,
MORIO, THAT
OWL'S
REALLY
WHACKED
OUT.



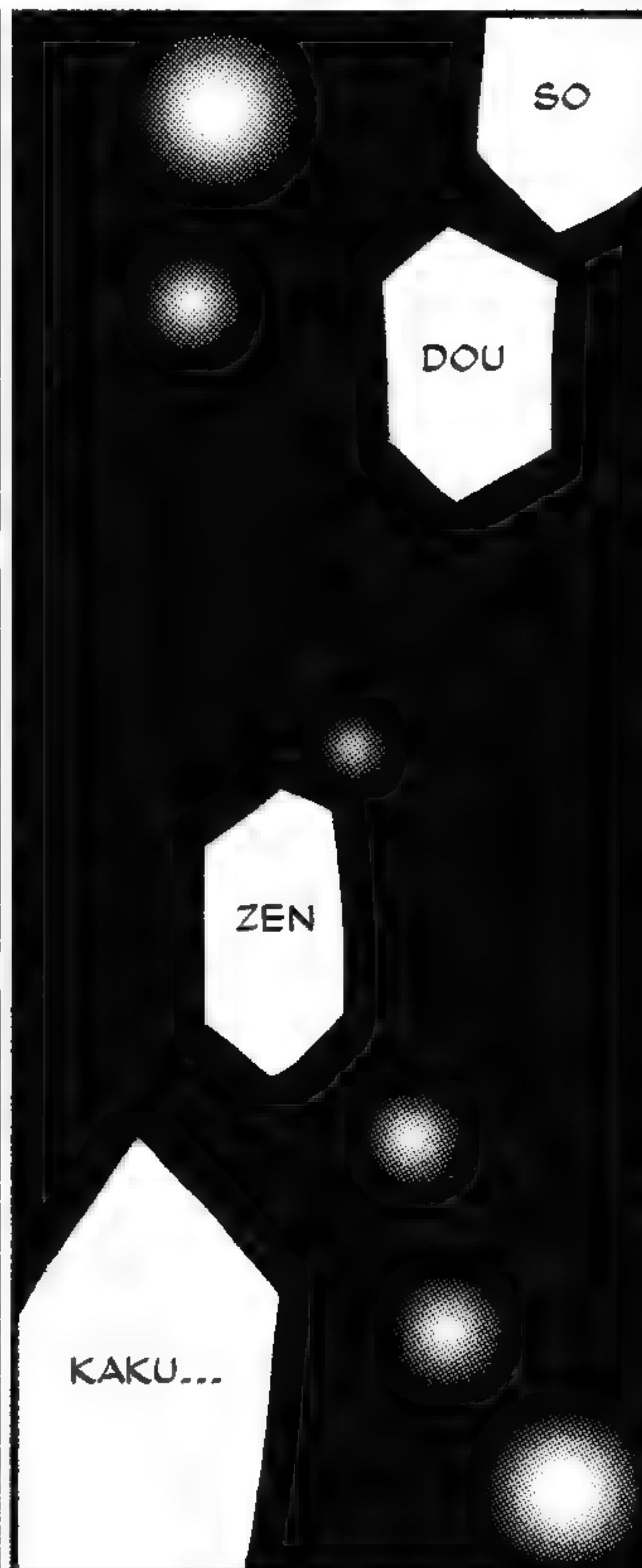
SO, WHAT?
HE'S...
GOD OR
SOMETHING?



HE
IS OUR
LEADER.

GOD?

HE IS
NOT A
VAGUE
EXISTENCE.



SO

DOU

ZEN

KAKU...

ITS
POWERS
WILL
SURPASS
ANY OF
YOUR
SO-CALLED
"GODS."

IT—
"THE ONE"—
UNITES WITH
ITS OWN
"ACRO'S
HEART" AND
BECOMES
WHOLE.

THE ONE
WILL SURELY
REVOLUTIONIZE
THE WORLD.

THINK OF
NOTHING ELSE.
JUST
CONCENTRATE
ON ITS
RETRIEVAL.

IF WE
RETRIEVE IT,
MAYBE
SOMEONE
HERE MIGHT
RUN OFF
WITH IT...

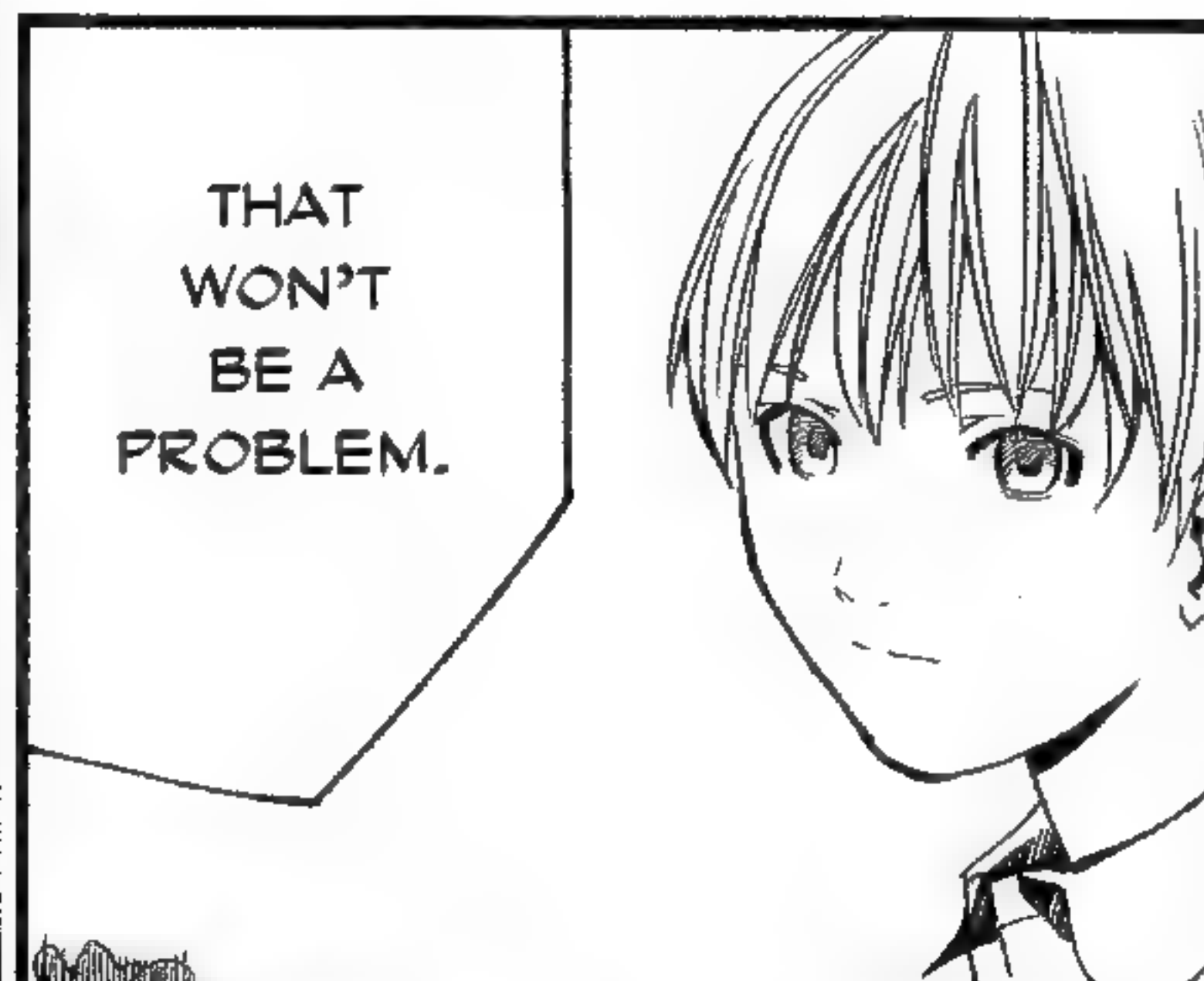
I'M PRETTY
SURE OTHER
COMRADES
ARE AFTER
THE "ACRO'S
HEART" FOR
ITS VALUE...

BUT...



TOO SMALL.

NONE OF YOU CAN HANDLE IT BECAUSE YOU ARE ALL...



THAT WON'T BE A PROBLEM.



YURA, STOP!!

Now, now.

FLINCH

?

JUMP

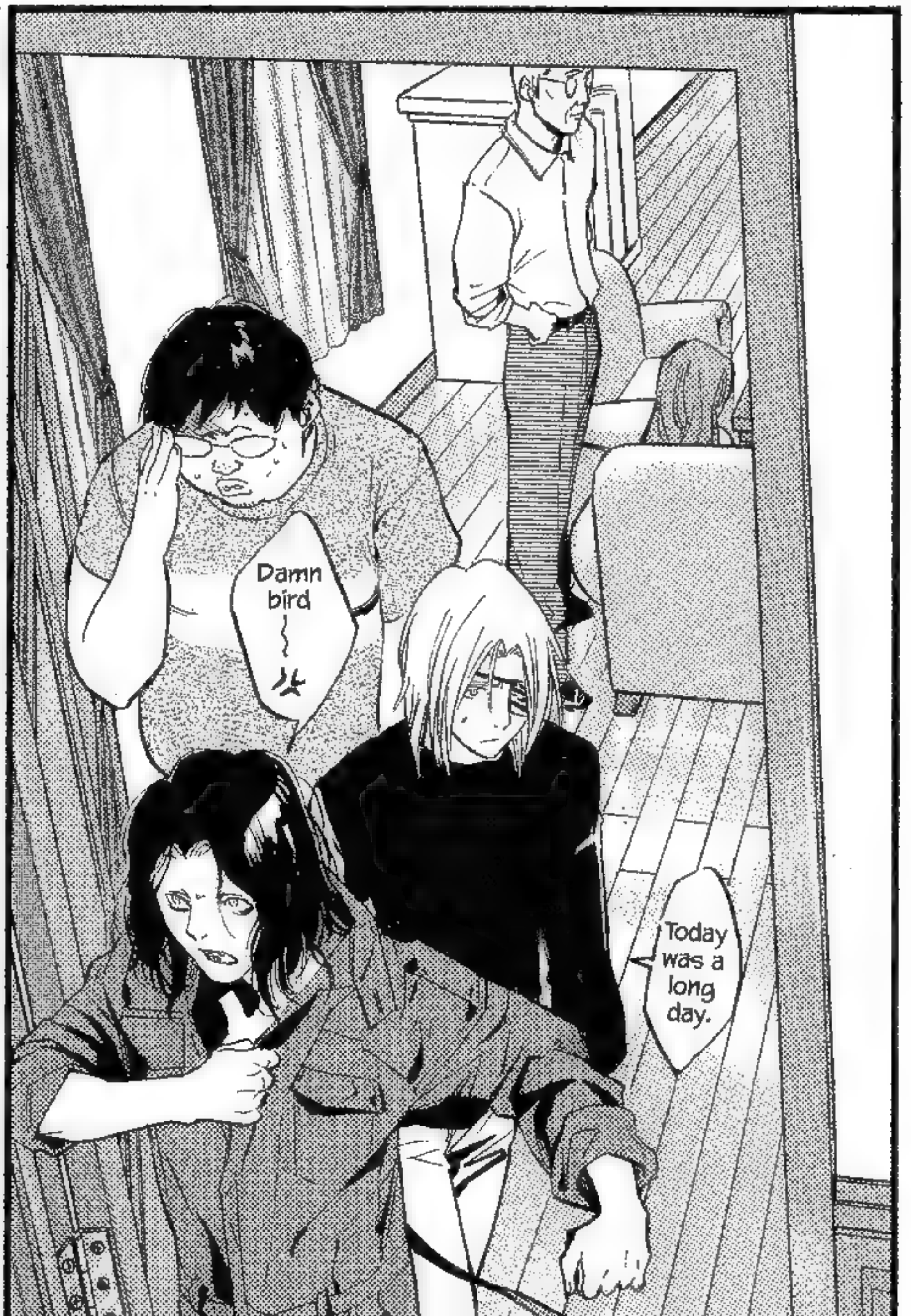
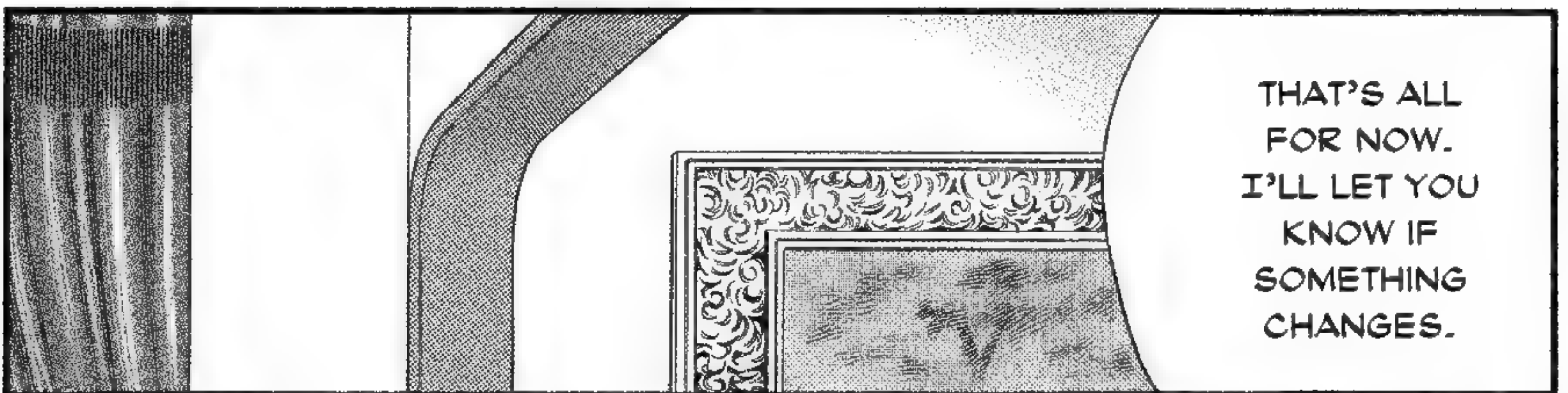
DAMN BIRD, CHECK OUT MY SIZE!!

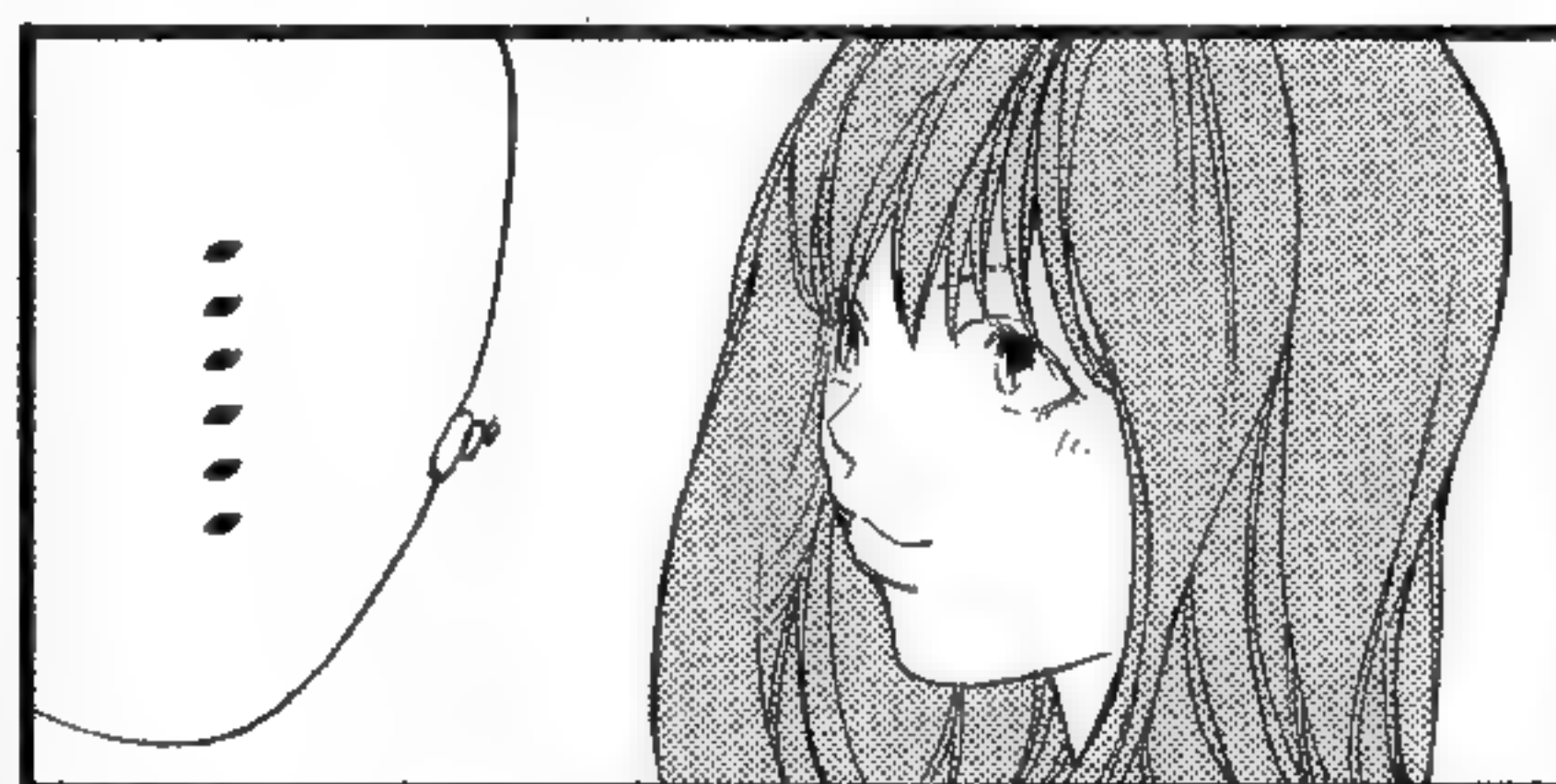


THE OTHER COMRADES PROBABLY CAN'T RETRIEVE IT, SO DON'T WORRY.

THE RETRIEVAL IS QUITE DIFFICULT.

SIMMER DOWN.







I MET
KANOU-KUN
YESTERDAY.



HMM, I
FEEL LIKE
A TEACHER
AMONG
YOU YOUNG
ONES.



OH
YES...

KATSUMATA-
SAN, YOU
WANTED
TO TALK
TO ME?



HE'S
SUCH A
CARING
FRIEND...

HE CAME ALL
THE WAY TO
HOKKAIDO,
SEARCHING
FOR BOTH
OF YOU.



TO PROTECT
OCHIAI-SAN ON
YOUR OWN.

BUT HE
FEELS THAT
YOU'RE
NOT
STRONG
ENOUGH...





...EH?



ARE YOU
FEELING
LIKE A HERO,
HELPING
ME WITH
KANON?!



YOU'RE
JUST
LIKE...

YOU'RE
A FAKE
HERO!!



**TAISUKE
KANOU!!**

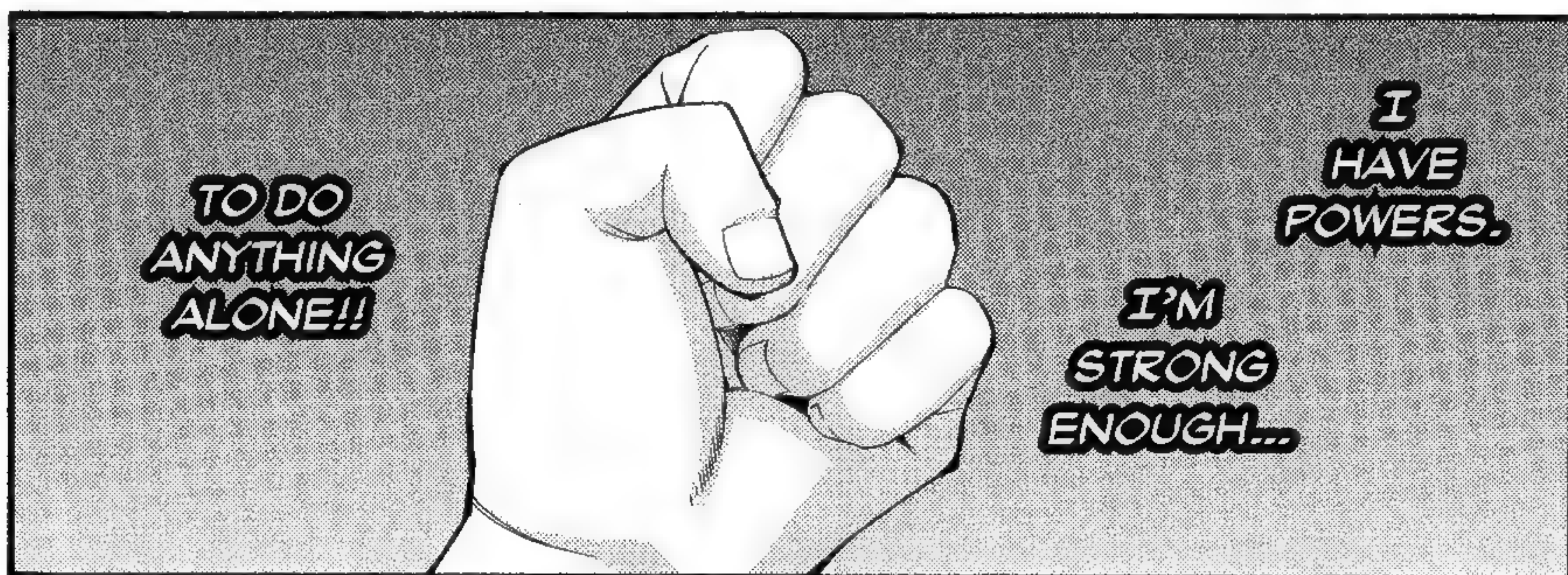


SO PATHETIC
HEROES CAN
ONLY MAKE
PATHETIC
FRIENDS —

YOU'RE
HIS FRIEND,
RIGHT?!
THEY SAY
BIRDS OF A
FEATHER
FLOCK
TOGETHER...

WHSSS

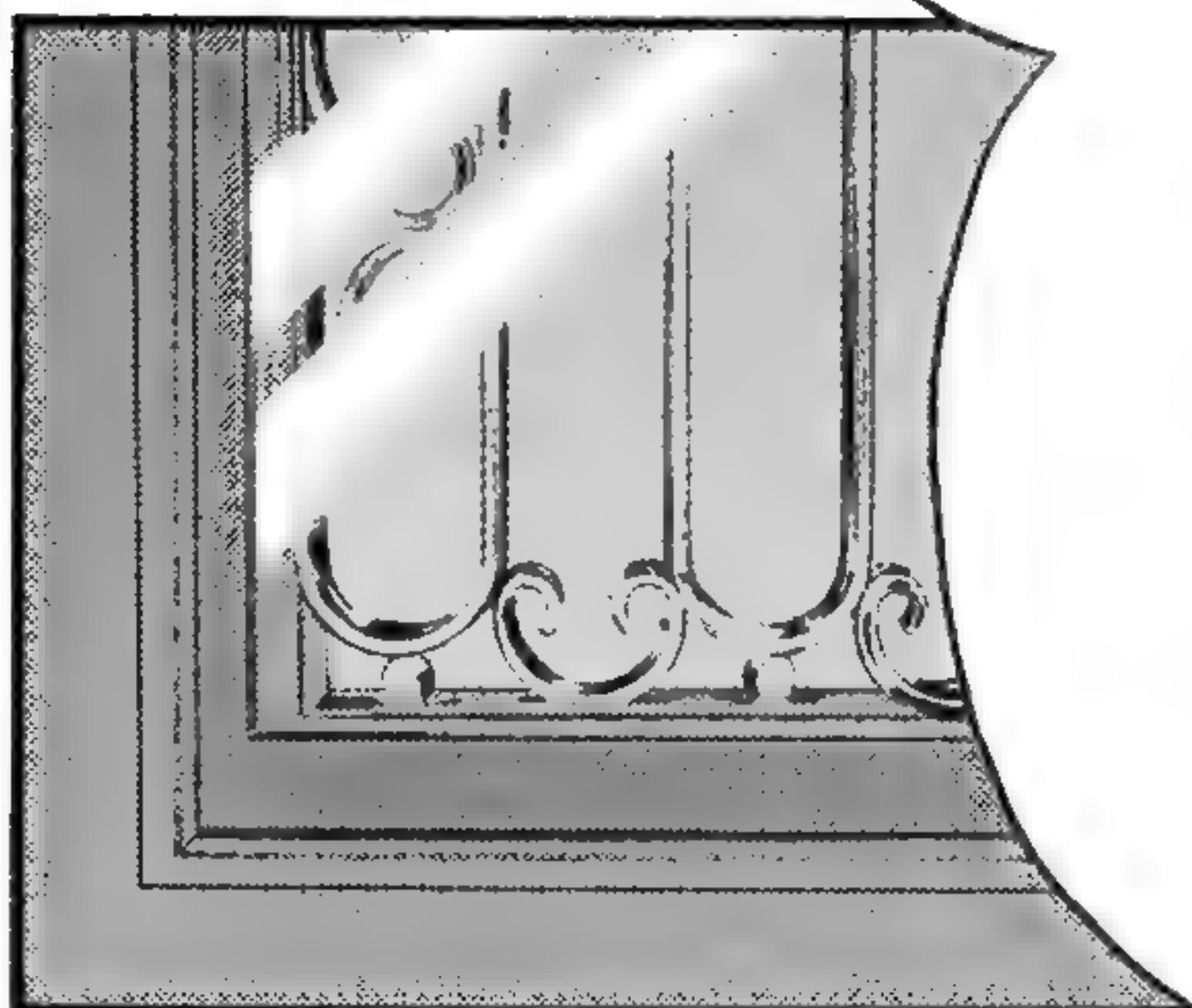






FWAP

ALL
SET!



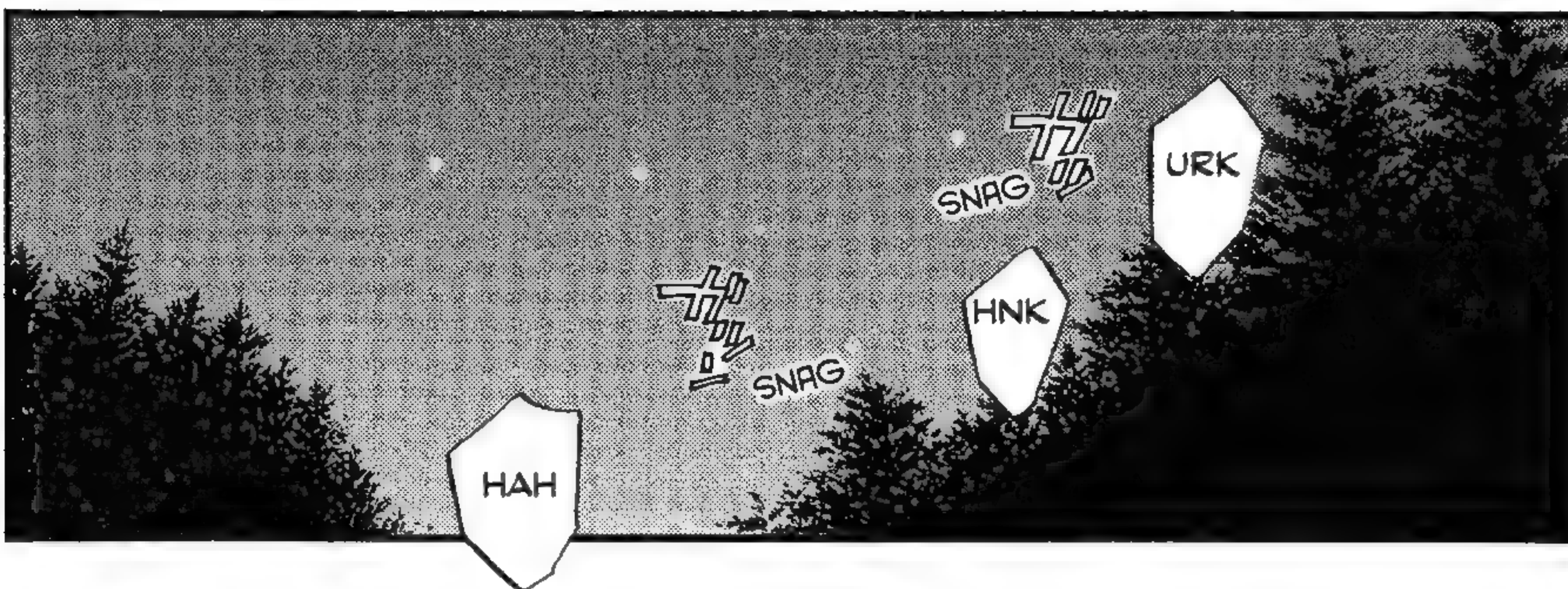
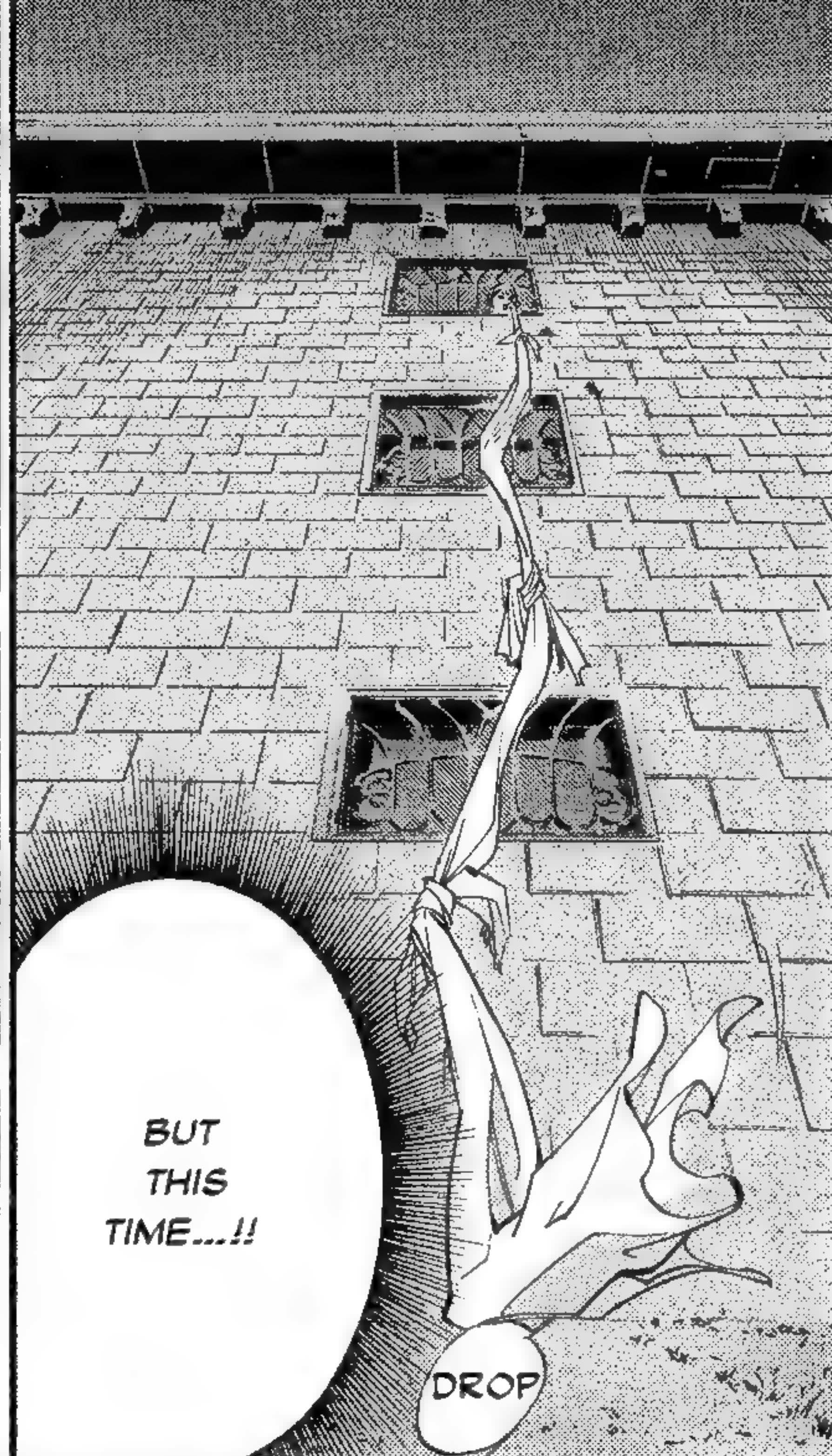
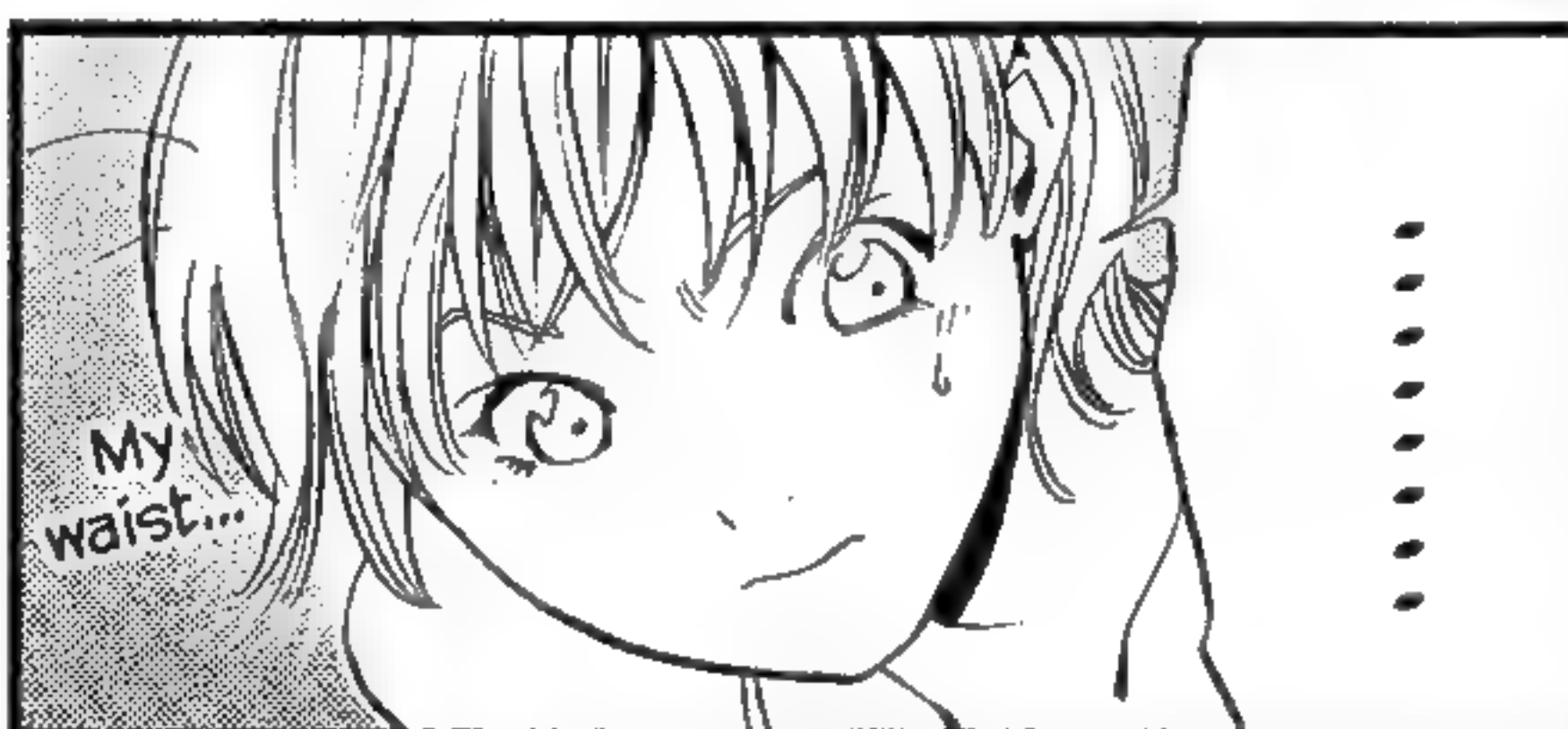
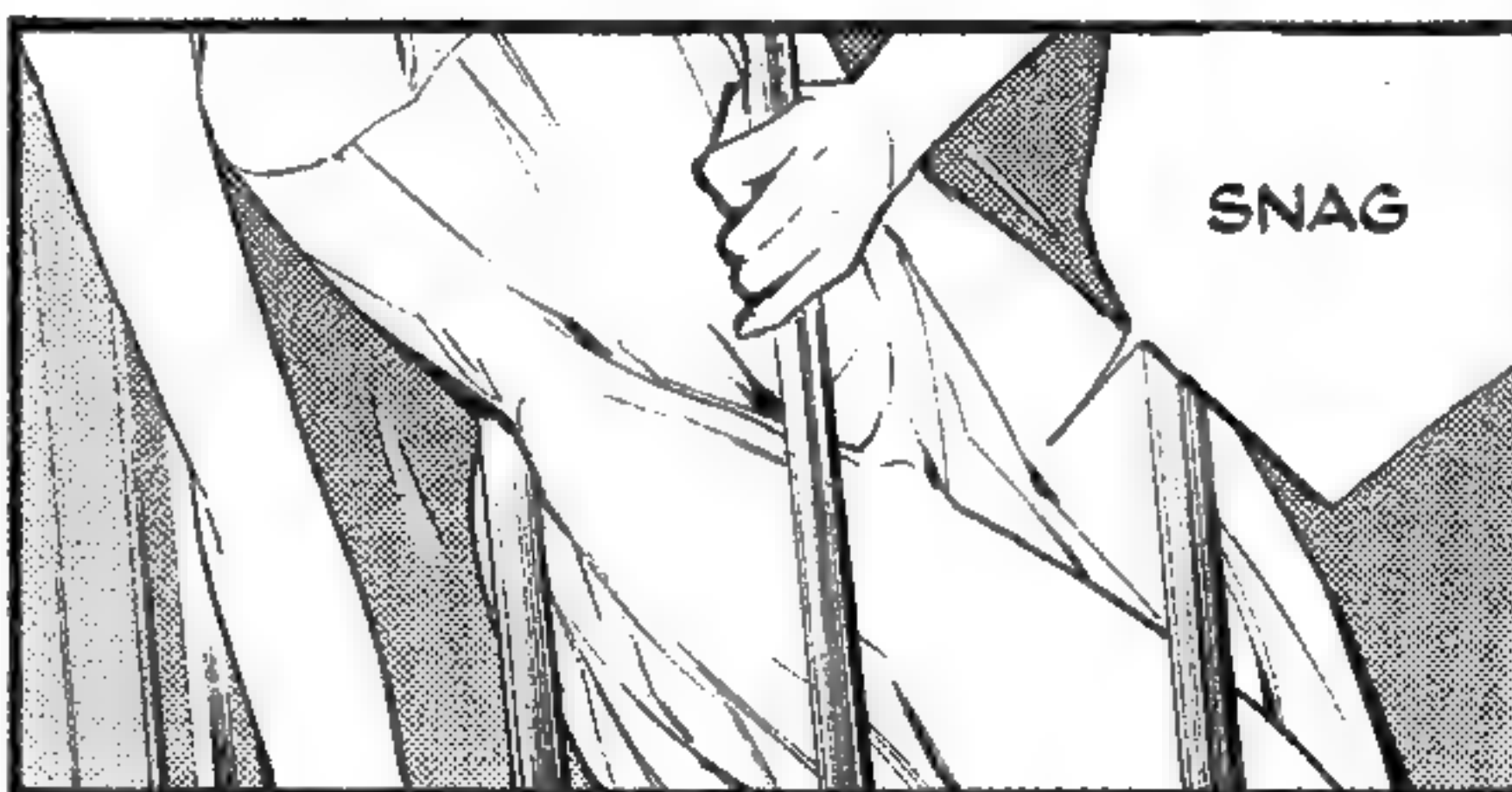
I JUST
NEED TO
TIE THIS
TO THE
WINDOW
AND SLIP
OUT...



THE LAST
MANSION
WAS TOO
HIGH...

Not
long
enough...







OH
YEAH!!



WHAT
SHOULD I
DO...

AT THIS
RATE, I'LL
NEVER
ESCAPE...



ON THE
WINDOW
GRATES!

I'LL
POUR
MISO
SOUP...



How
many
years
will that
take...



THERE WAS
A TV
PROGRAM
WHERE THEY
SHOWED
SALT
CORRODING
METAL BARS!

I'LL ASK
HIROSE-KUN
TO MAKE ME
REALLY SALTY
MISO SOUP
EVERY DAY...

He poured soup on metal bars...

How a prisoner escaped from a maximum security jail



THAT'S
SOMETHING
TAISUKE
WOULD
THINK OF.

PLOP

WHAT
A
STUPID
IDEA.



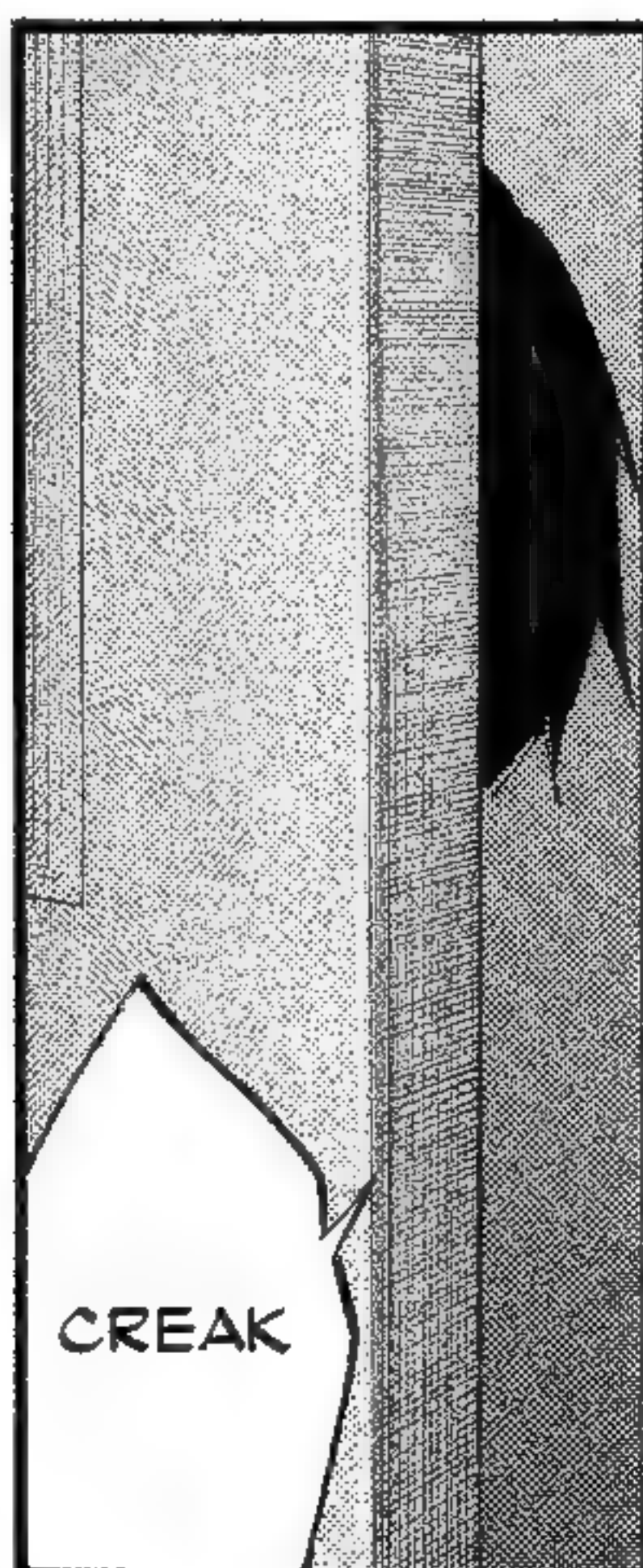
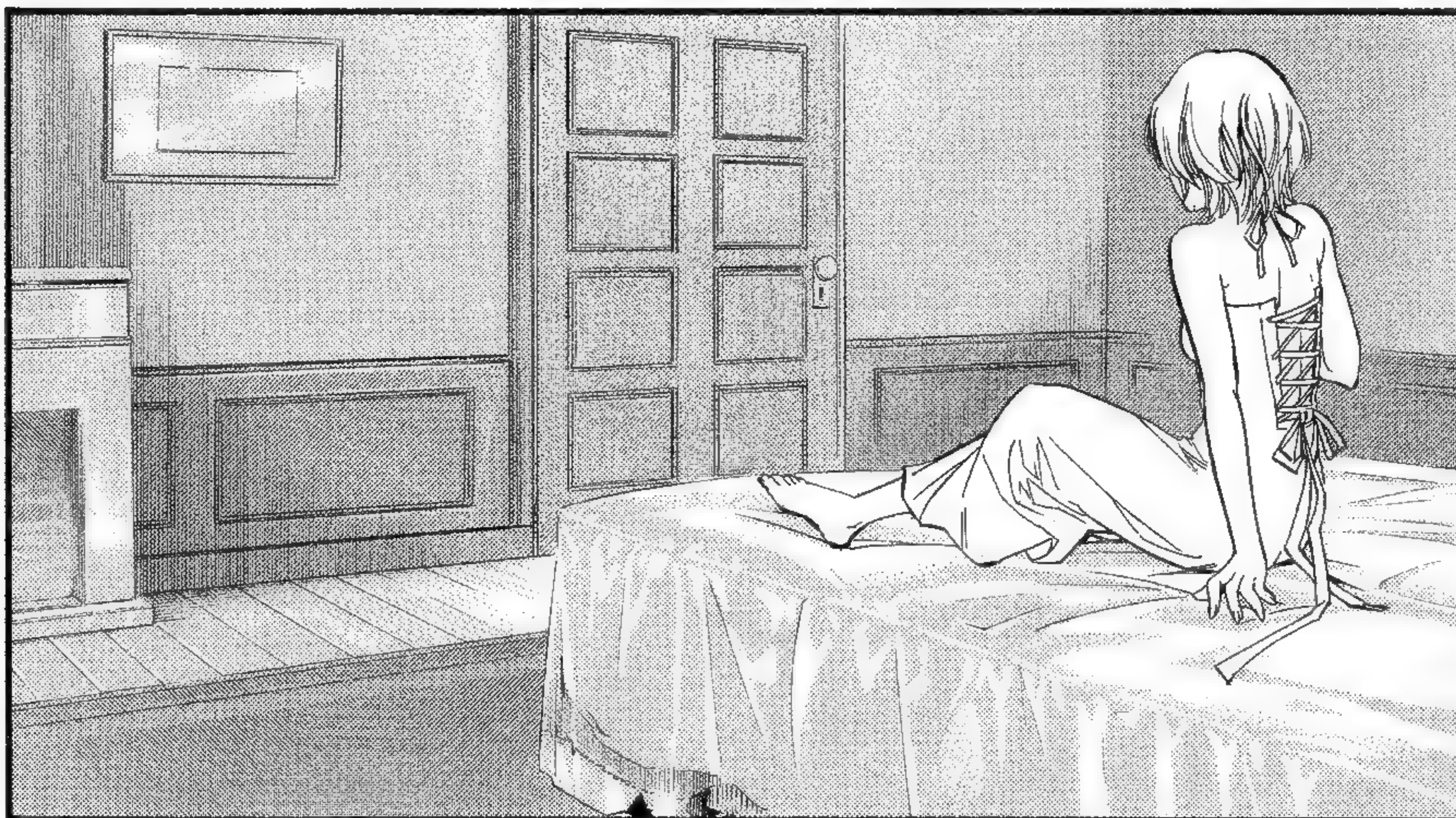
TAI-
SUKE...



I
WON'T
FORGIVE
YOU IF
YOU DIE...



I
HOPE
YOU'RE
ALIVE...







WHY?



WH...



THAT'S
RIGHT



KANON WILL
FREE YOU.



HYAHA



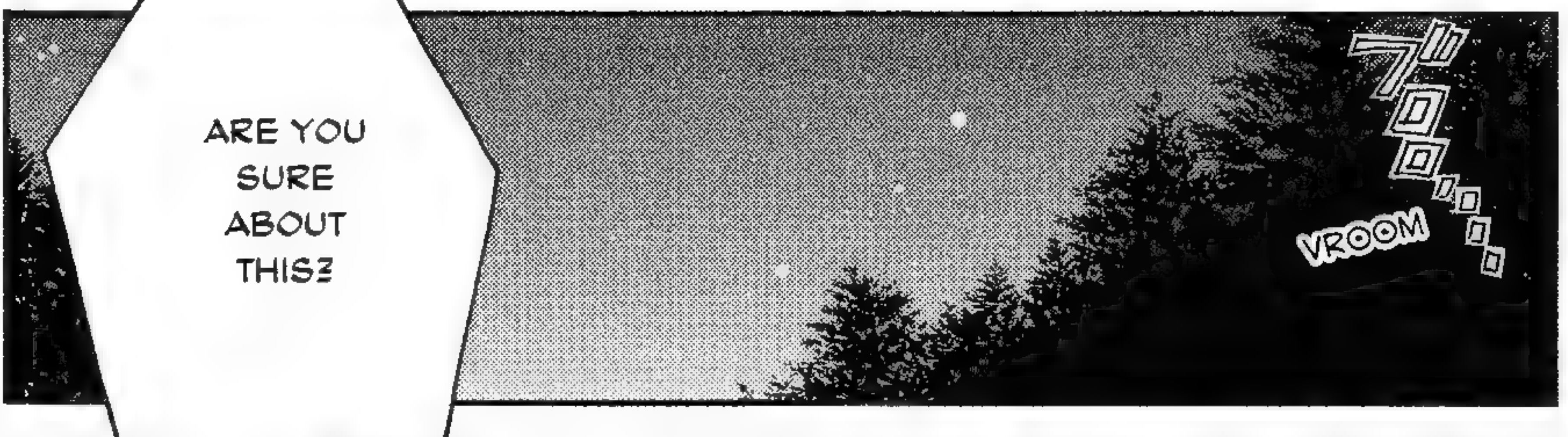
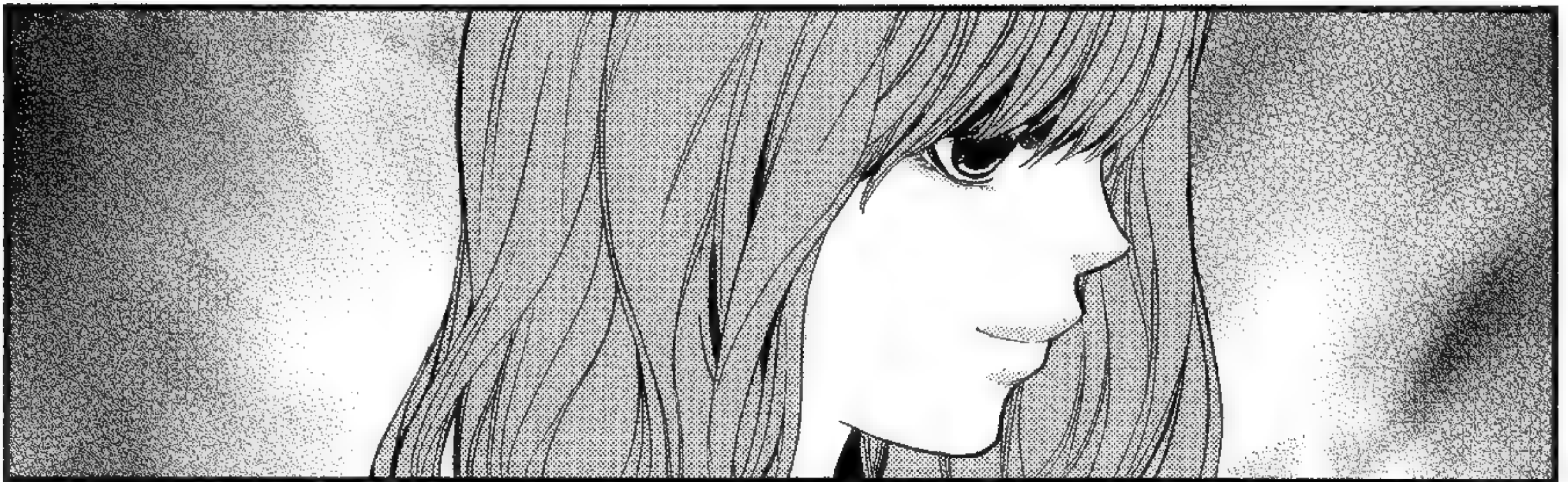
BECAUSE
I'M A
NICE
GIRL.



AH...



HOP
IN!!



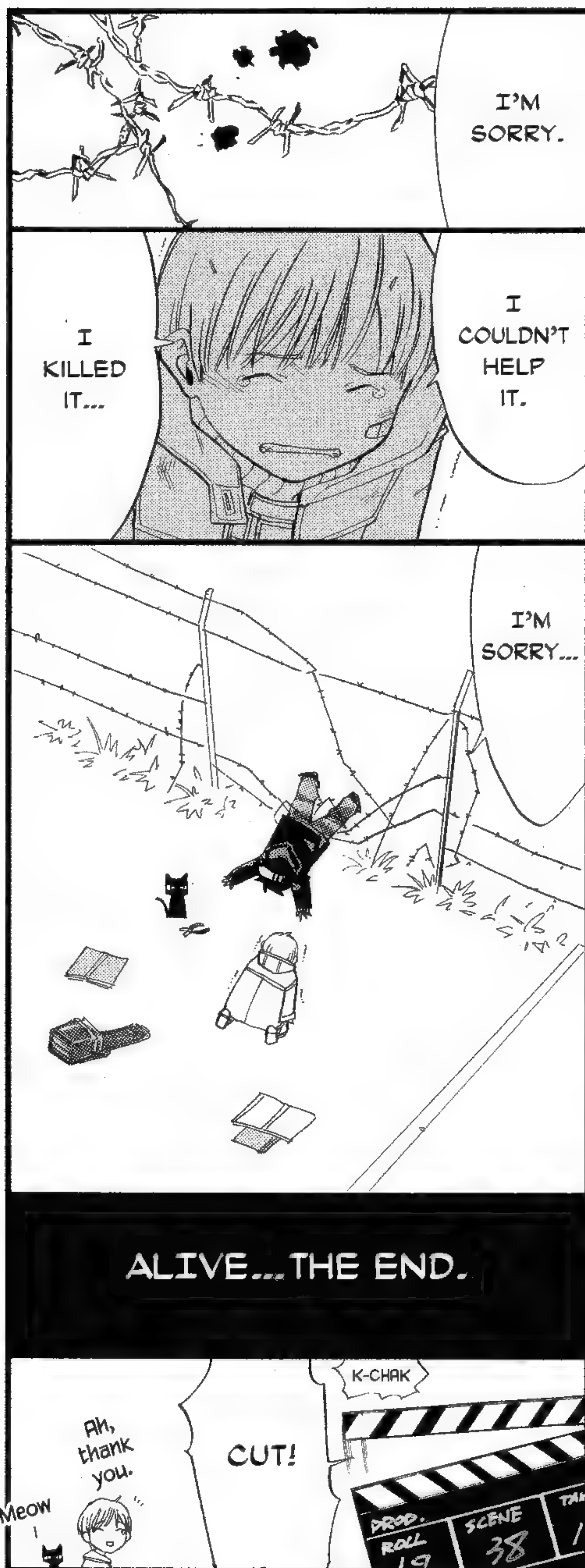


聖彼得堡的政府

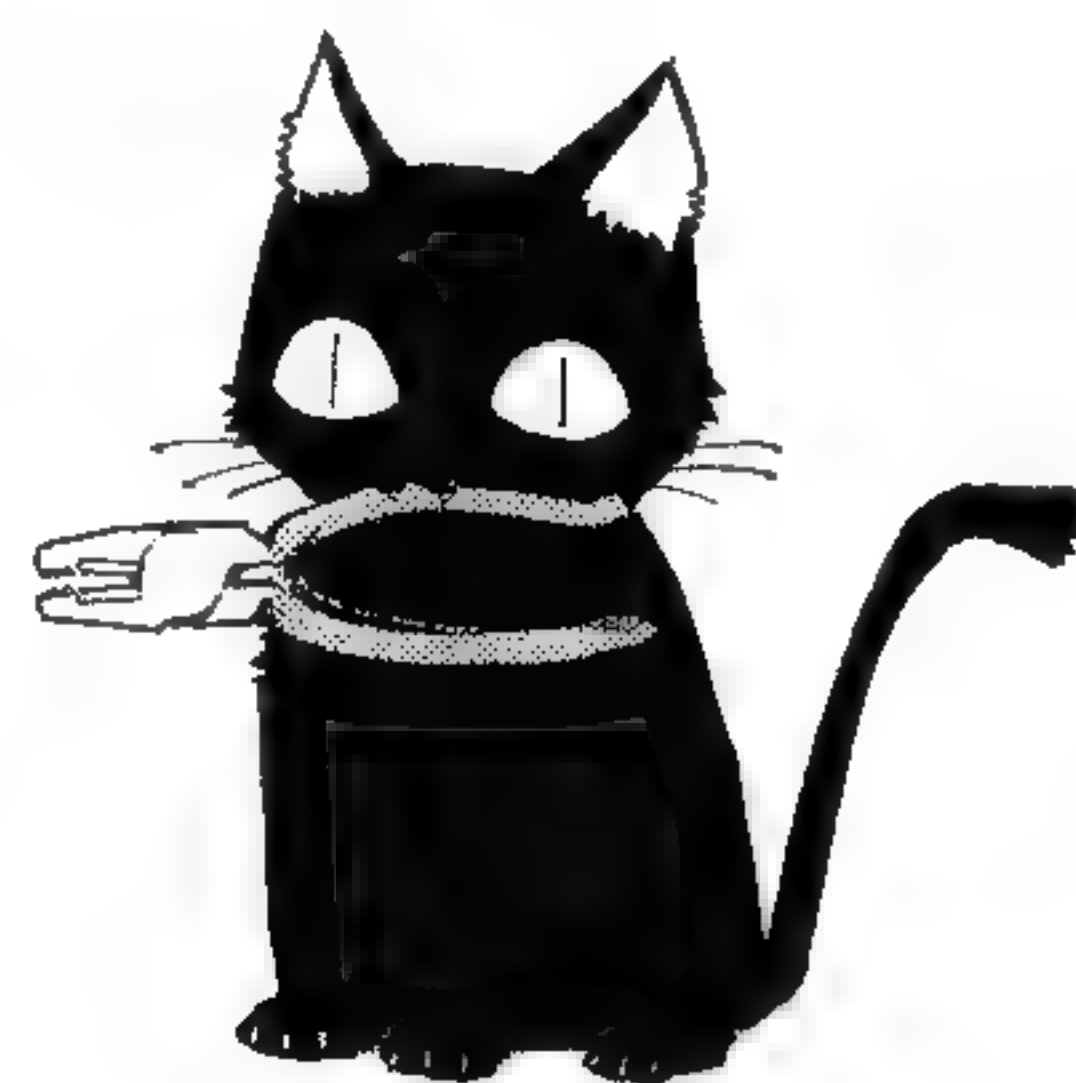


Alive

The Final Evolution

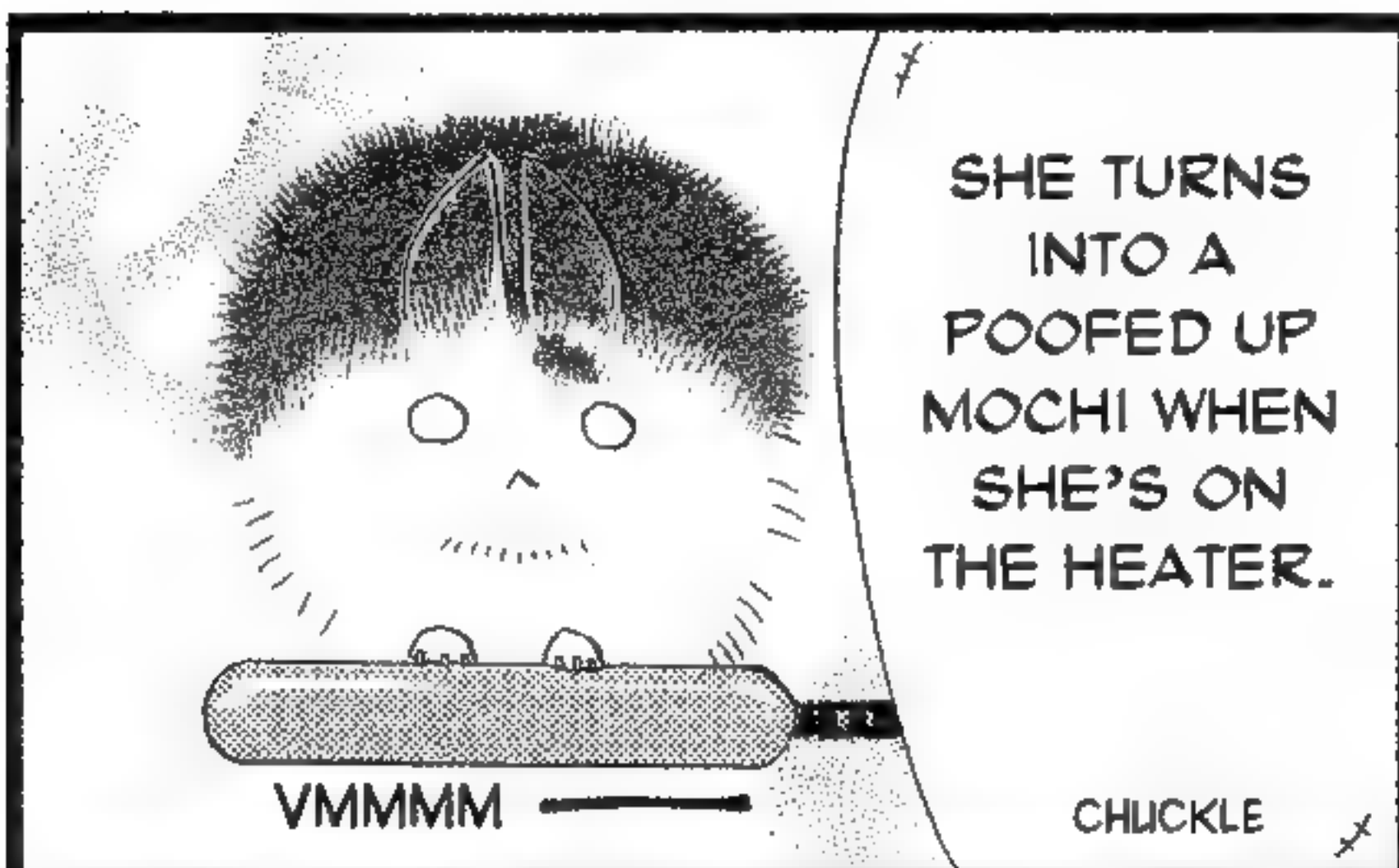


Light Visual Manga 5



Thank you for reading this far!!





SHE TURNS INTO A POOFED UP MOCHI WHEN SHE'S ON THE HEATER.

VMMMM

CHUCKLE

HAH

Why do you kill me at the end of almost every book...?

You're mean!

Bring the main character back in.

...BUT FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO DON'T CARE ABOUT OTHER PEOPLE'S PET RABBITS, I PREPARED THIS CLIP FOR YOU!

IT'S CALLED — FIND THE MISTAKE!



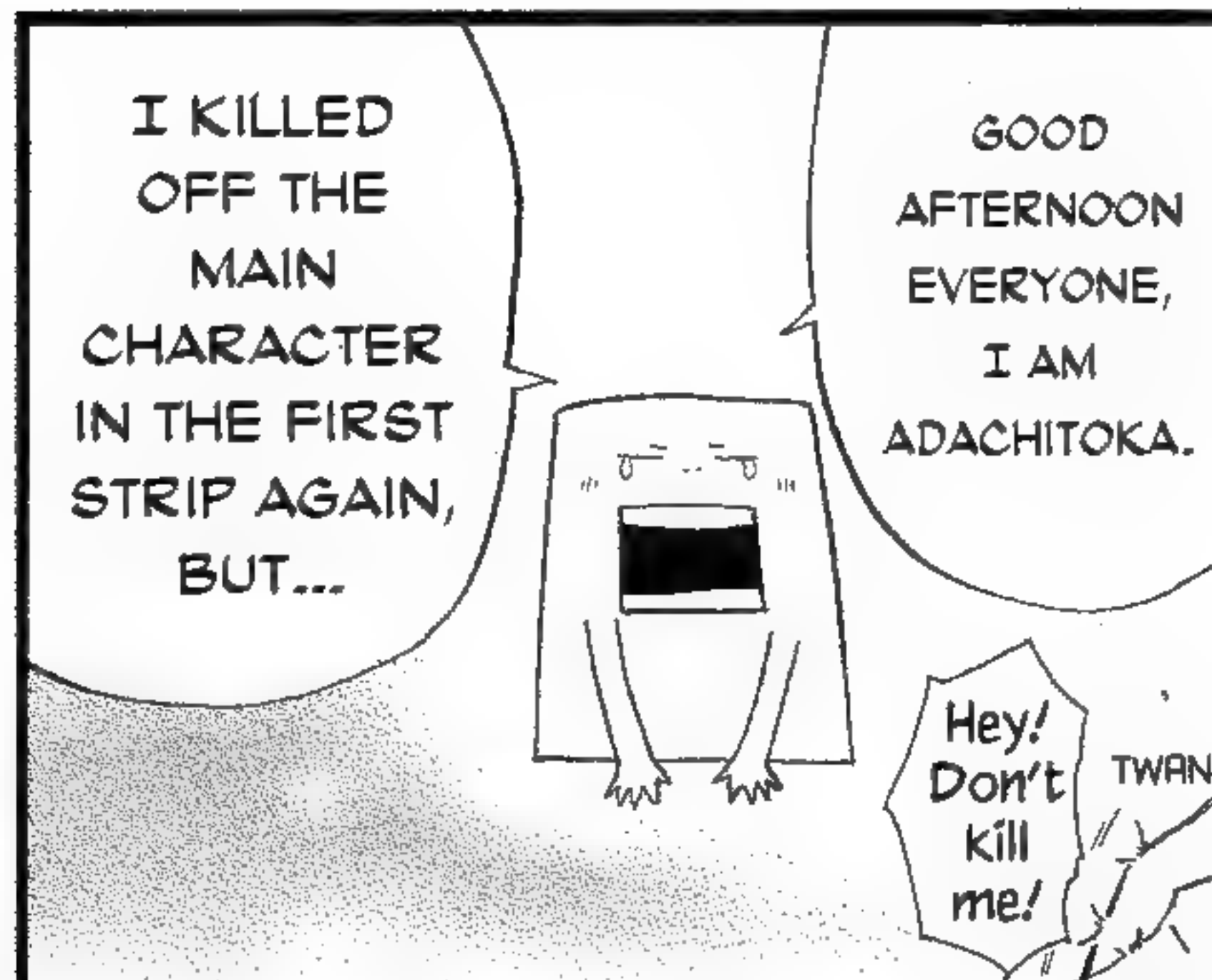
GROAN GROAN

Start!!

OKAY, EVERYONE, FIND THE MISTAKE!
3, 2, 1...

GO TO THE NEXT PAGE!

K-CHAK



I KILLED OFF THE MAIN CHARACTER IN THE FIRST STRIP AGAIN, BUT...

GOOD AFTERNOON EVERYONE, I AM ADACHITOKA.

Hey! Don't kill me!

TWANG

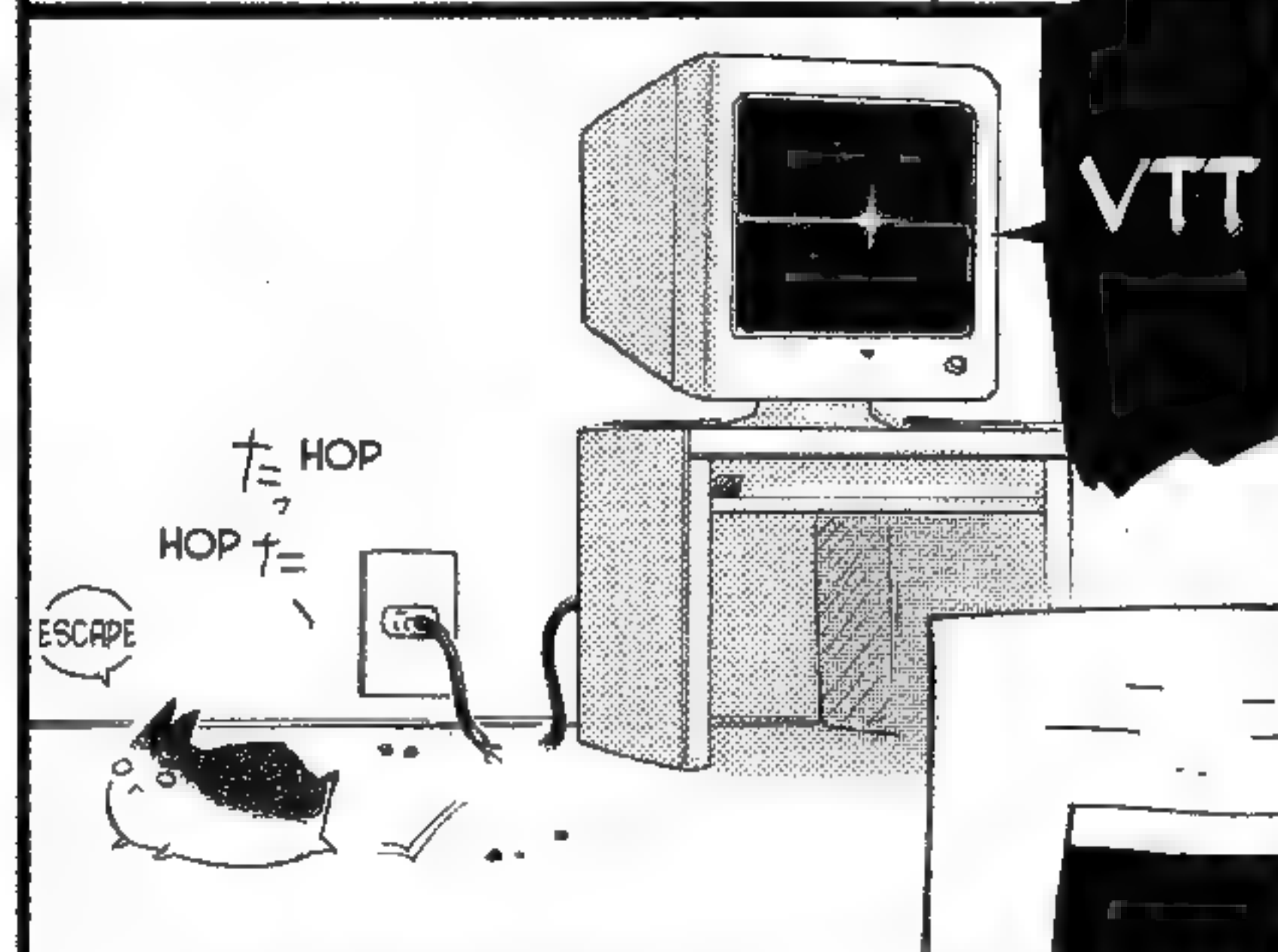
G-SHANG

SO LET ME CONTINUE BY TALKING ABOUT MY RABBIT, STEW...

IT'S SO HARD TO COME UP WITH GOOD GAGS.

NIBBLE

NIBBLE



VTT

HOP
HOP
HOP

ESCAPE



I BOUGHT THIS ~~HOT PLATE~~ ELECTRIC HEATER PAD TO KEEP HER WARM THIS WINTER.

Locked up...

WARM
ホカ

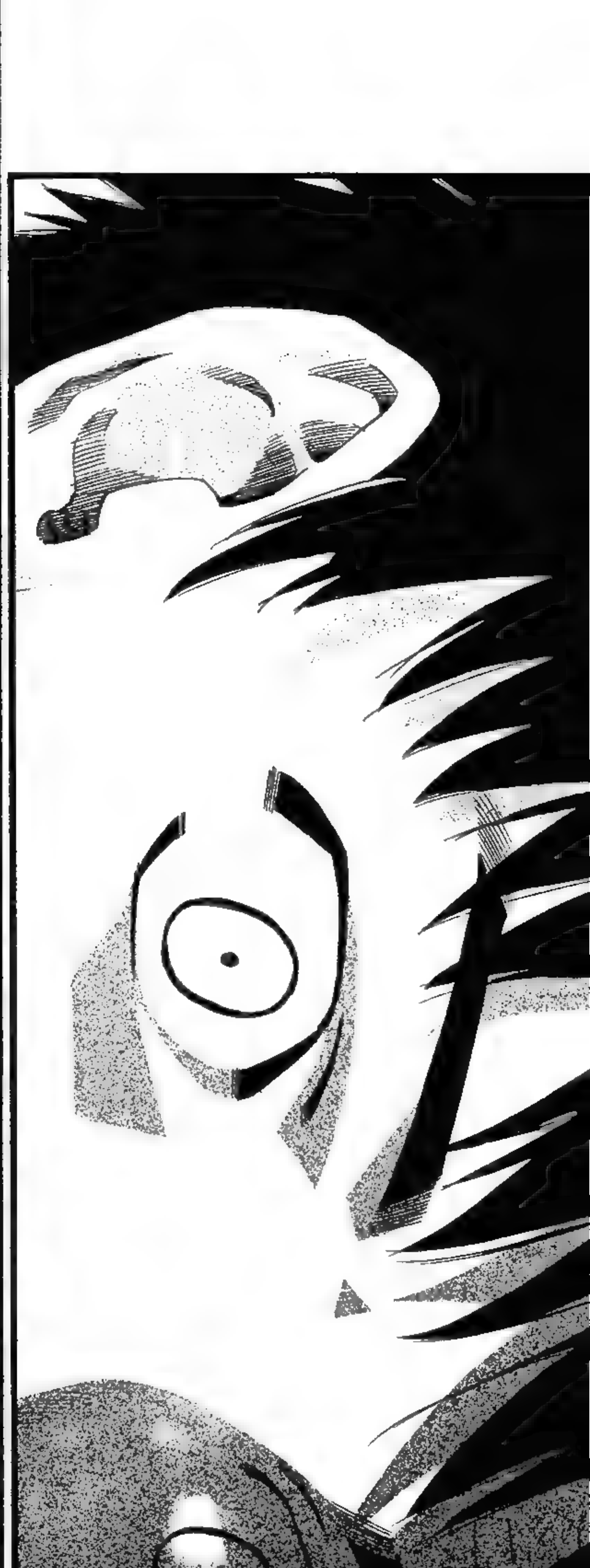
WARM
ホカ

This thing

WE READ ALL THE FAN LETTERS. THANK YOU VERY MUCH!



WE MEET
AGAIN,
TAISUKE
KANOU-KUN.



HOW
MANY
DID YOU
FIND?!

SHIVER
SHIVER

WHAT
WOULD
YOU LIKE
TO KNOW
ABOUT?

ERR...
UMM...

ANSWER, KATSUMATA'S BELT
COLOR IS DIFFERENT!

Translation Notes

Japanese is a tricky language for most Westerners, and translation is often more art than science. For your edification and reading pleasure, here are notes on some of the places where we could have gone in a different direction with our translation of the work, or where a Japanese cultural reference is used.

***Kamaitachi*, page 3**

Kamaitachi was a mythical phenomenon, where winds would mysteriously cut or slice people and objects like a *kama* (sickle). It was thought to be caused by an *itachi* (weasel), so the term *kamaitachi* (sickle weasel) came about.

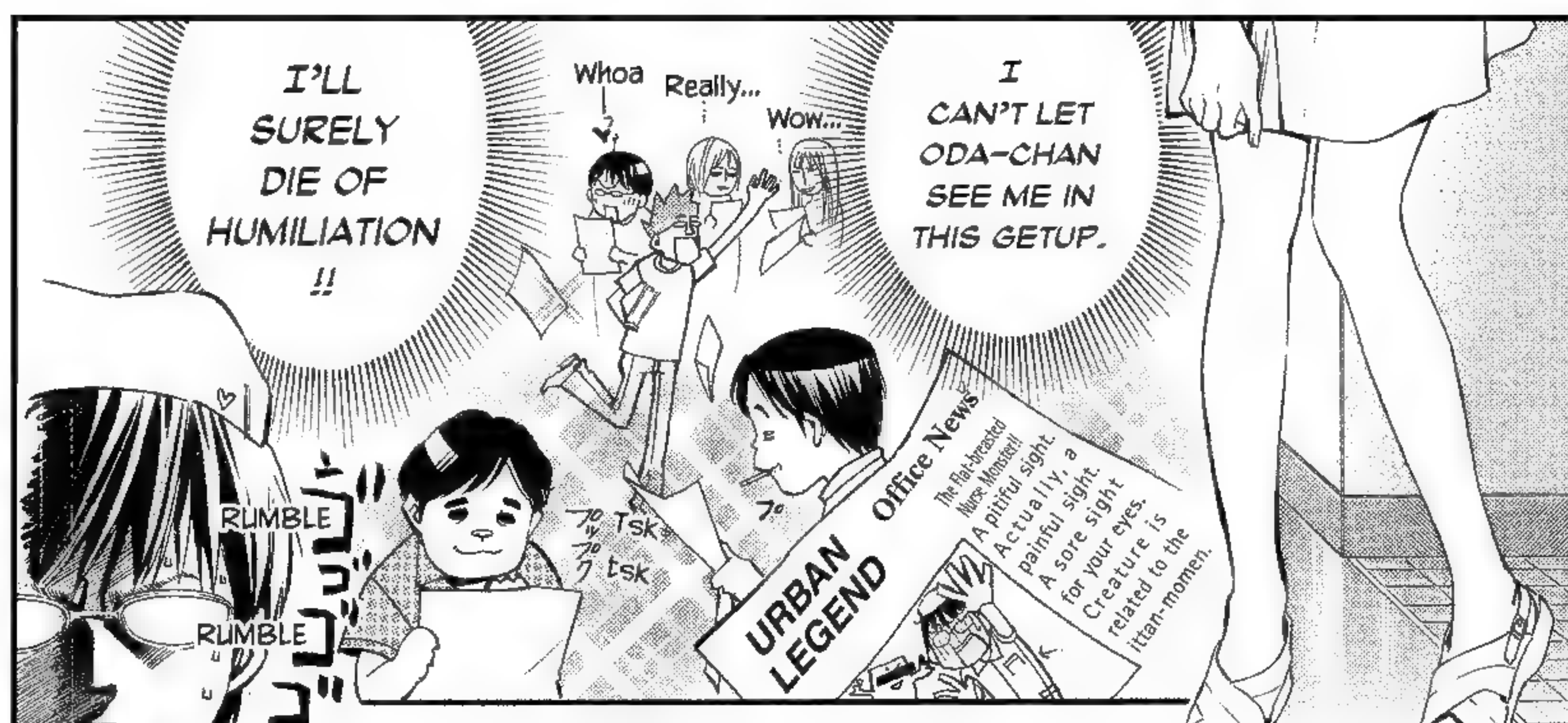


Kenichirou Morio

One of Katsumata's comrades. Controls wind to create sharp blades of air like a *kamaitachi* to slice humans. Hates Taisuke for burning a permanent scar on his face.

***Ittan-momen*, page 91**

Ittan-momen is a white, floating sheet-like creature in Japanese mythology (dwelling in the Hiroshima Prefecture). *Ittan* (or 1 *tan* = approximately 11 meters long) is a Japanese measurement mainly used for kimono/cloth fabric length (and also the size of rice paddies, approximately 991.74 square meters). *Momen* means “cotton,” so *ittan-momen* literally means “cotton fabric 1 *tan* long.” It flies through the air and will attack people by wrapping itself around their face and throat, suffocating them to death. Many Japanese people recognize *ittan-momen* as one of the regular characters that appeared in the popular Japanese manga/anime about native mythical creatures, *Gegege no Kitarou*. In that series, *ittan-momen* was one of the good guys, acting like a magic carpet for the main creature-character, *Kitarou*. In this manga, though, when Amamiya wore a white nurse’s outfit, Oda-chan’s office news (imagined by Amamiya) emphasized that the flatness of Amamiya’s breasts were comparable to that of a flat *ittan-momen*.



Discount Shop Pyon Quixote, page 92

“Pyon Quixote” is a bunny parody of “Don Quixote,” a popular chain of discount shops in Japan. *Pyon* is a Japanese onomatopoeia for “hop” usually used for the sound of a rabbit hopping. The parody doesn’t go beyond the fact that the artist just wanted to draw his pet, Stew, on the tag. The artist tends to squeeze in his pet’s name, Stew (sometimes phonetically spelled “Shichuu”), and rabbits in various minor objects and signs throughout the series.



Babaa, page 98

Oda tried to say *bakuhatsu* (explosion) in Japanese, but because



he stuttered only the first syllable *ba* several times, Amamiya mistook it as *babaa*. *Babaa* is a slang term for “old hag” and is used when demeaning a woman as being too old and/or annoying, equivalent to the insulting English word “bitch.”

Shiroi Henjin, page 122

Shiroi Henjin, or “White Lunatic,” is a parody of a Hokkaido white

chocolate cookie, *Shiroi Koibito*, or “White Lover,” which is a popular gift item. The kanji for *hen* (weird) and *koi* (love) are very similar.



Kattsun, pages 122 and 125

Kattsun is a nickname Yura made up for Katsumata.



Kanon-kun, pages 125, 132, and 152

Though the honorific *-kun* is commonly used when addressing males (Kanou-kun or Hirose-kun) it can be used for females in place of *-chan* (Kanon-kun), especially when addressed in a business-like manner. This is not to say that *-chan* is exclusively used for females, though. The honorific *-chan* is commonly used when addressing females (Nami-chan) and little children, but it can be affectionately used for males, such as Oda-chan or Ken-chan.



So Dou Zen Kaku, page 128

So means “ancestor” or “founder,” *dou* means “way” or “path” — which could be a combined phrase, *sodou*, meaning “path determined by the leader/founder.” *Zen* means “all” or “everything,” and *kaku* means “center” or “core” — and could possibly be combined to be *zen-kaku*, meaning “center of everything.” At this point of the series, though, it is unclear what this phrase actually means. Each kanji could be taken as one phrase each with several profound meanings, but it could also be just a name or one whole phrase, *so-dou-zen-kaku*, which could mean “the path of the leader who is the center of all existence.” The owl obviously uses this phrase to vaguely describe “the One,” so it could be the author’s intent to keep it unclear for the readers for now.



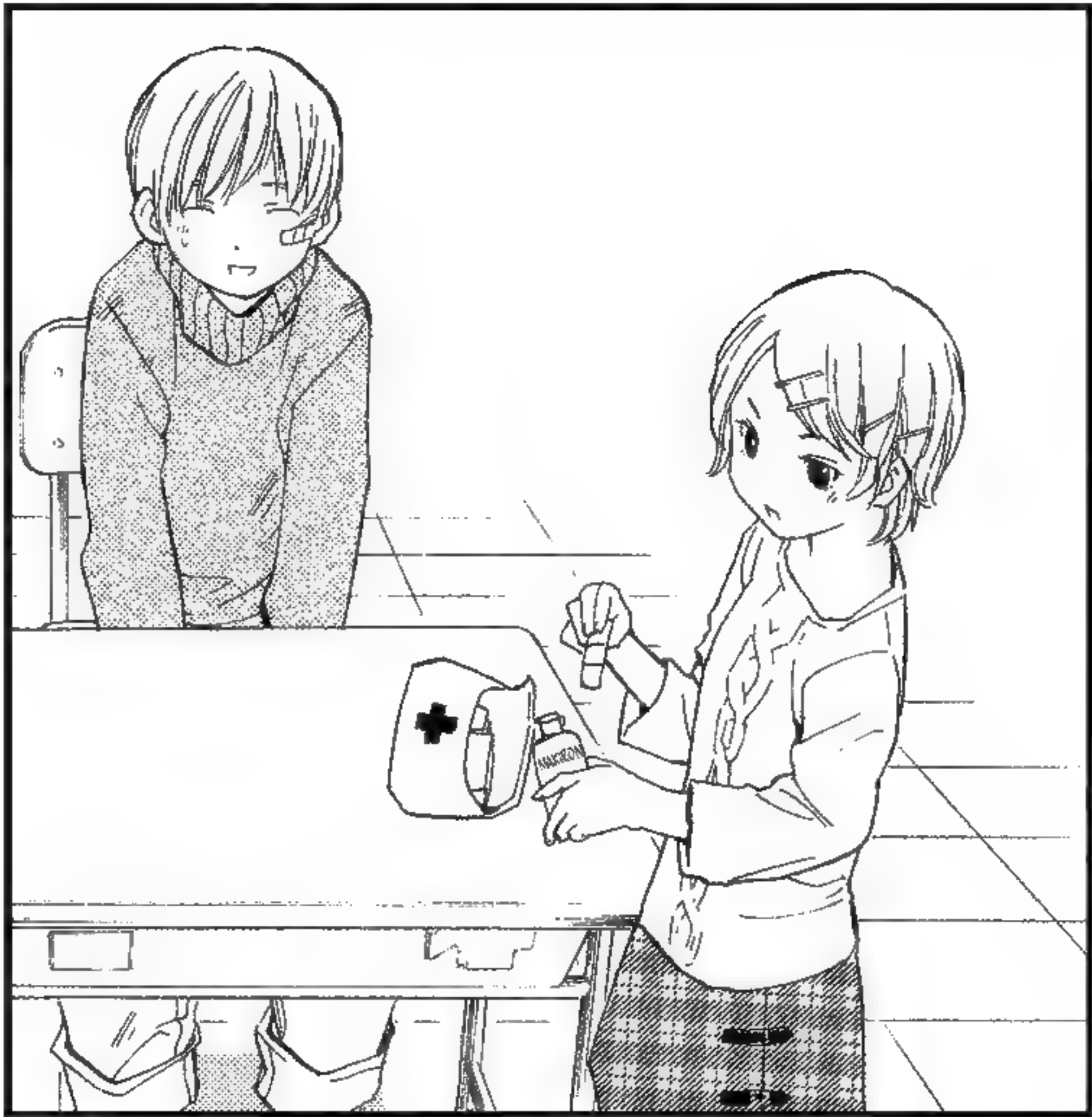
Miso soup, page 140

Miso is soybean paste, and *miso* soup is a soybean paste soup, commonly consumed by the Japanese, just as chicken noodle soup is very commonly consumed in the United States. Megumi thought of using the salt in *miso* soup to corrode window grates, in vain.



Makiron, page150

Makiron is a popular Japanese disinfectant solution used to treat light scratches and cuts, similar to an isopropyl alcohol.



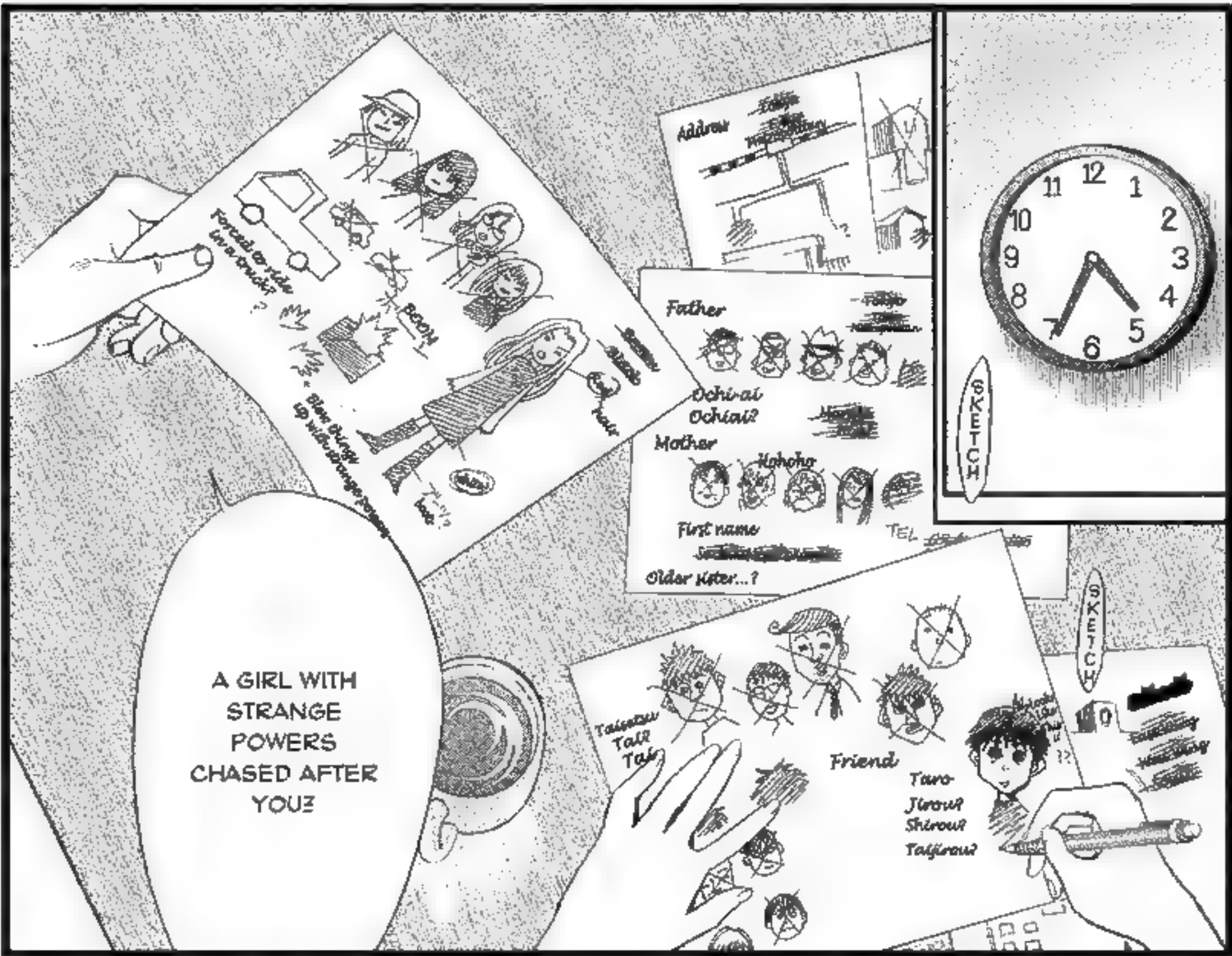
Somen, page 164

Somen are thin, white noodles made of wheat flour. They can be eaten cold by dipping in *tsuyu*, a soy-sauce-based soup, or hot, in stir-fries or soups.



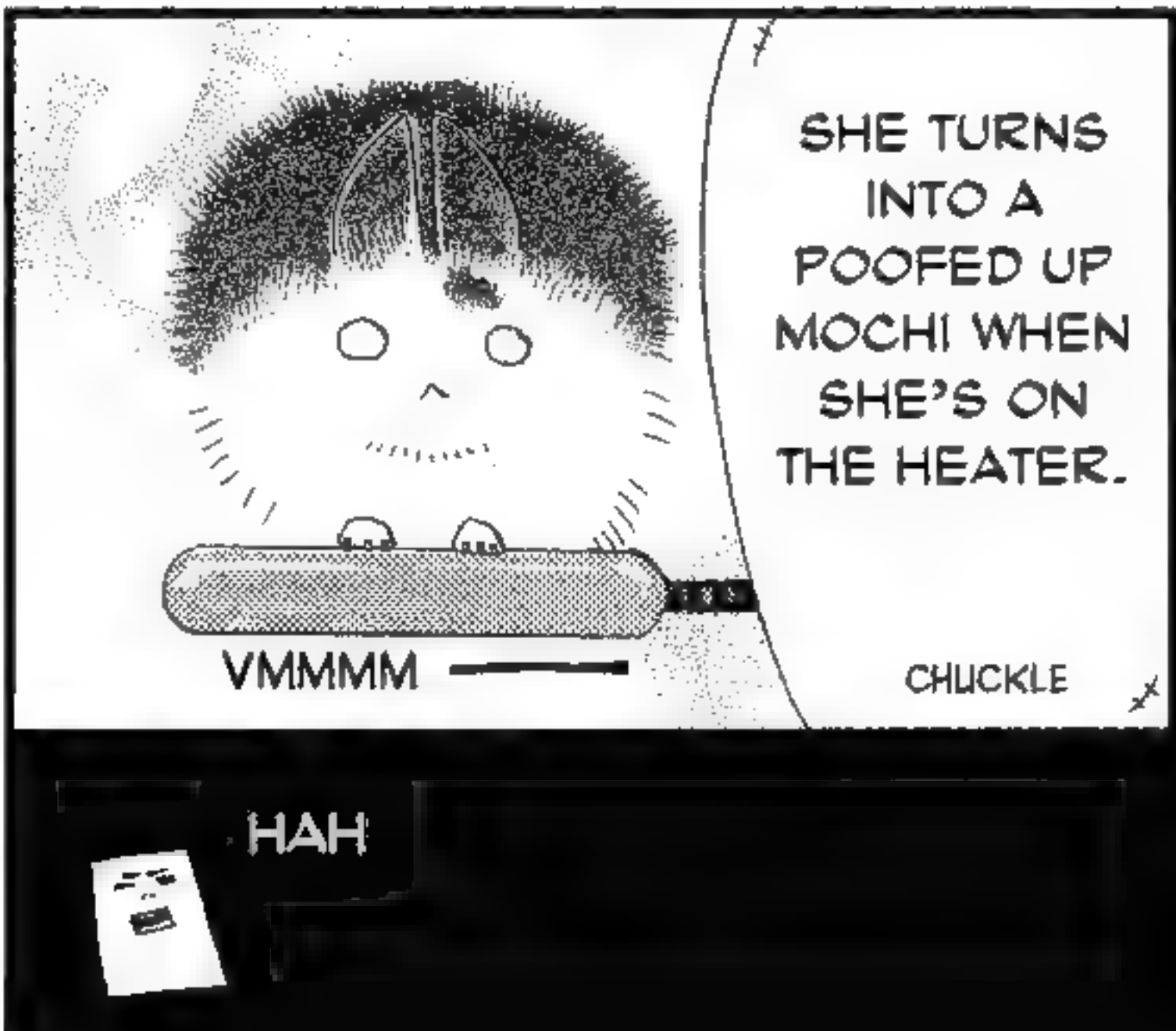
Kanji characters *Taisetsu*, *Tai*, *Inu*, and *Taisuke*, pages 169 and 172

Megumi made many scribbles of a kanji (pronounced *tai* or *dai*) that means “large” or “big.” She also wrote the word *taisetsu*, which means “important.” The kanji for *tai* with a dot at the bottom becomes a different kanji, also pronounced *tai*, and is the first kanji for Taisuke’s name, but putting the dot on the top right (*inu*, *ken*, or [slang] *wan*) makes it mean “dog.” Previously, in volume 2, Yuta played with Taisuke’s name and called him *Wansuke*. Because of the similarity between “dog” and the first kanji for Taisuke’s name, Megumi thinks of dogs and draws several dogs next to her scribbles of the above kanji.



***Mochi*, page 197**

Mochi is a white rice cake that poofs up when heated, much like Stew, the rabbit, when it warms itself on the heater pad.



Honorifics Explained

Throughout the Del Rey Manga books, you will find Japanese honorifics left intact in the translations. For those not familiar with how the Japanese use honorifics and, more important, how they differ from American honorifics, we present this brief overview.

Politeness has always been a critical facet of Japanese culture. Ever since the feudal era, when Japan was a highly stratified society, use of honorifics—which can be defined as polite speech that indicates relationship or status—has played an essential role in the Japanese language. When addressing someone in Japanese, an honorific usually takes the form of a suffix attached to one's name (example: “Asuna-san”), is used as a title at the end of one's name, or appears in place of the name itself (example: “Negi-sensei,” or simply “Sensei”).

Honorifics can be expressions of respect or endearment. In the context of manga and anime, honorifics give insight into the nature of the relationship between characters. Many English translations leave out these important honorifics and therefore distort the feel of the original Japanese. Because Japanese honorifics contain nuances that English honorifics lack, it is our policy at Del Rey not to translate them. Here, instead, is a guide to some of the honorifics you may encounter in Del Rey Manga.

- san:** This is the most common honorific and is equivalent to Mr., Miss, Ms., or Mrs. It is the all-purpose honorific and can be used in any situation where politeness is required.
- sama:** This is one level higher than “-san” and is used to confer great respect.
- dono:** This comes from the word “tono,” which means “lord.” It is an even higher level than “-sama” and confers utmost respect.

-kun: This suffix is used at the end of boys' names to express familiarity or endearment. It is also sometimes used by men among friends, or when addressing someone younger or of a lower station.

-chan: This is used to express endearment, mostly toward girls. It is also used for little boys, pets, and even among lovers. It gives a sense of childish cuteness.

Bozu: This is an informal way to refer to a boy, similar to the English terms "kid" and "squirt."

Sempai/

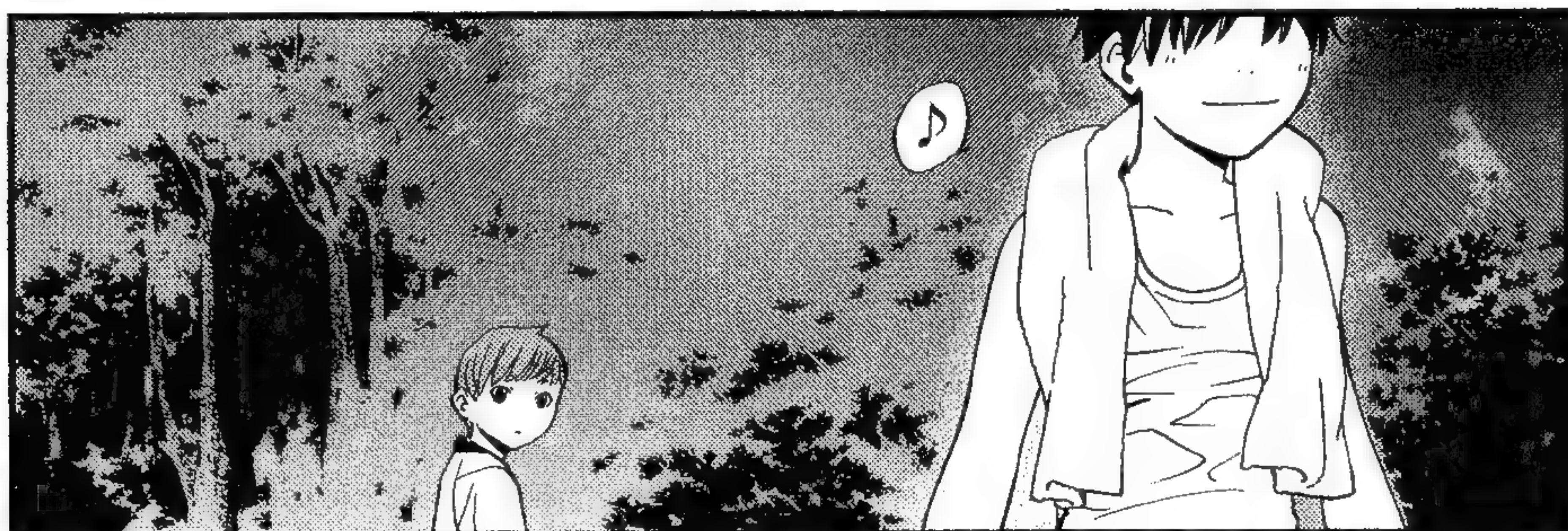
Senpai: This title suggests that the addressee is one's senior in a group or organization. It is most often used in a school setting, where underclassmen refer to their upperclassmen as "sempai." It can also be used in the workplace, such as when a newer employee addresses an employee who has seniority in the company.

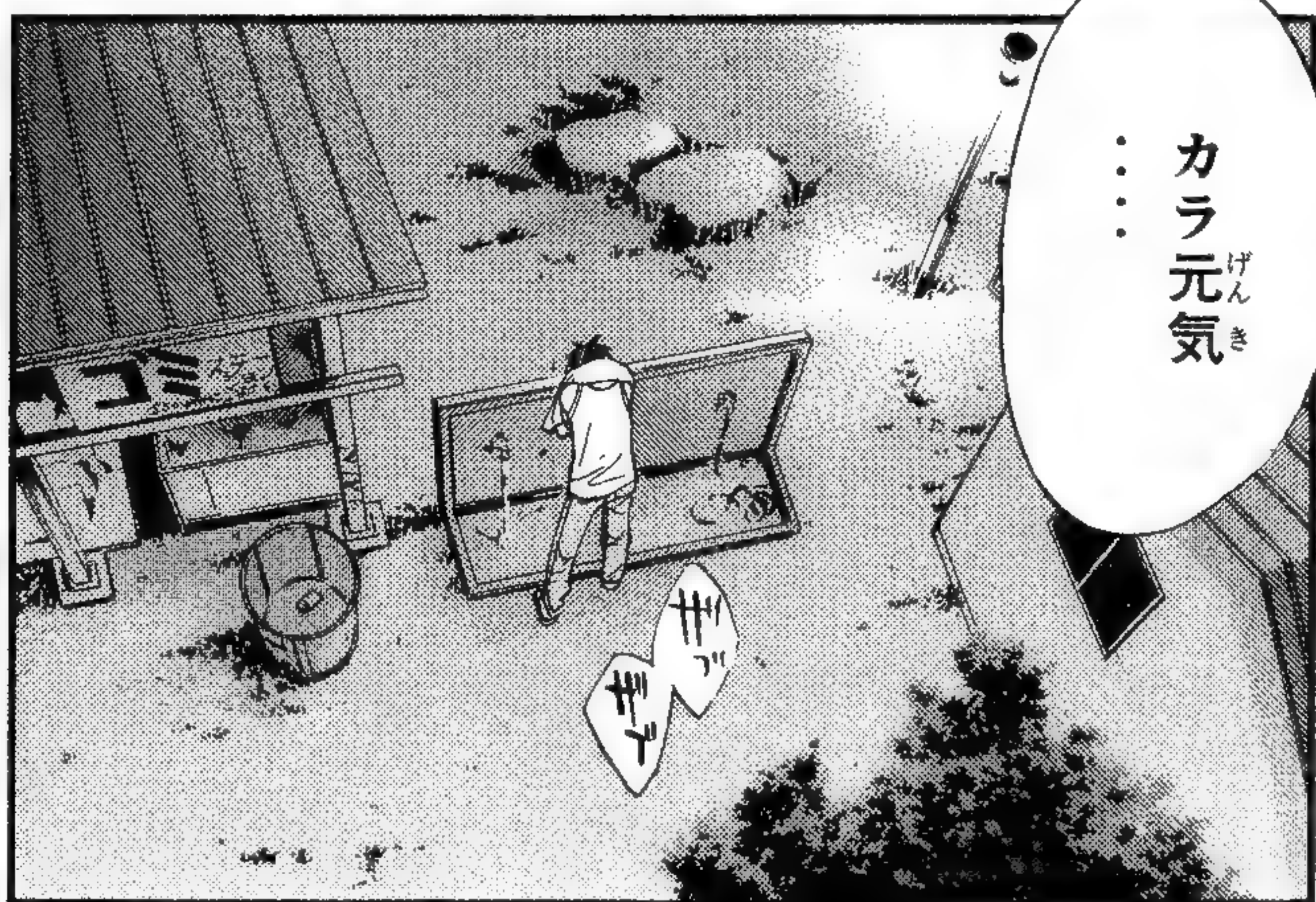
Kohai: This is the opposite of "sempai" and is used toward underclassmen in school or newcomers in the workplace. It connotes that the addressee is of a lower station.

Sensei: Literally meaning "one who has come before," this title is used for teachers, doctors, or masters of any profession or art.

-[blank]: This is usually forgotten in these lists, but it is perhaps the most significant difference between Japanese and English. The lack of honorific means that the speaker has permission to address the person in a very intimate way. Usually, only family, spouses, or very close friends have this kind of permission. Known as *yobisute*, it can be gratifying when someone who has earned the intimacy starts to call one by one's name without an honorific. But when that intimacy hasn't been earned, it can be very insulting.

We're pleased to present you a preview from *Alive* volume 6.
Please check our website (www.delreymanga.com) to see when
this volume will be available in English. For now you'll have to
make do with Japanese!





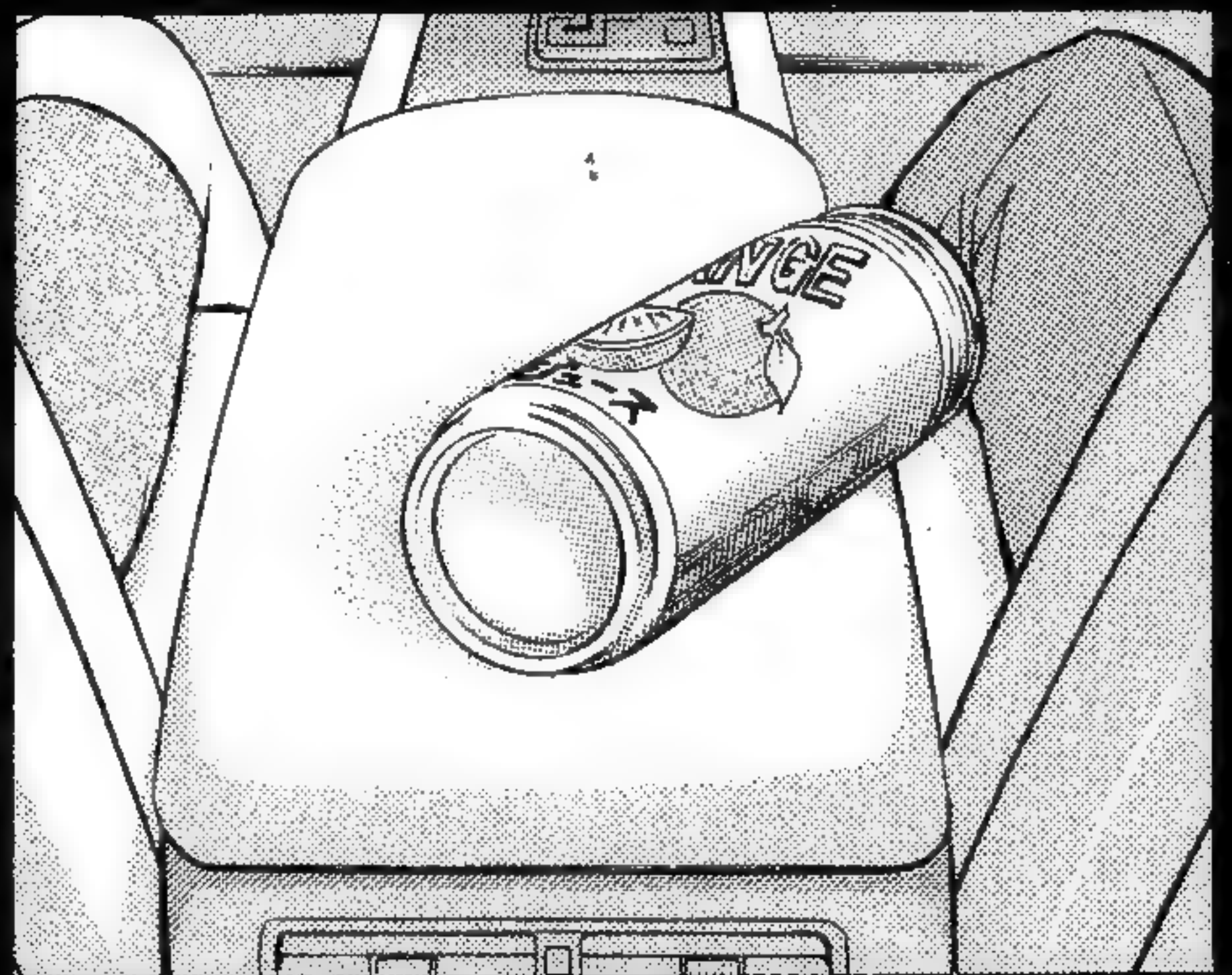


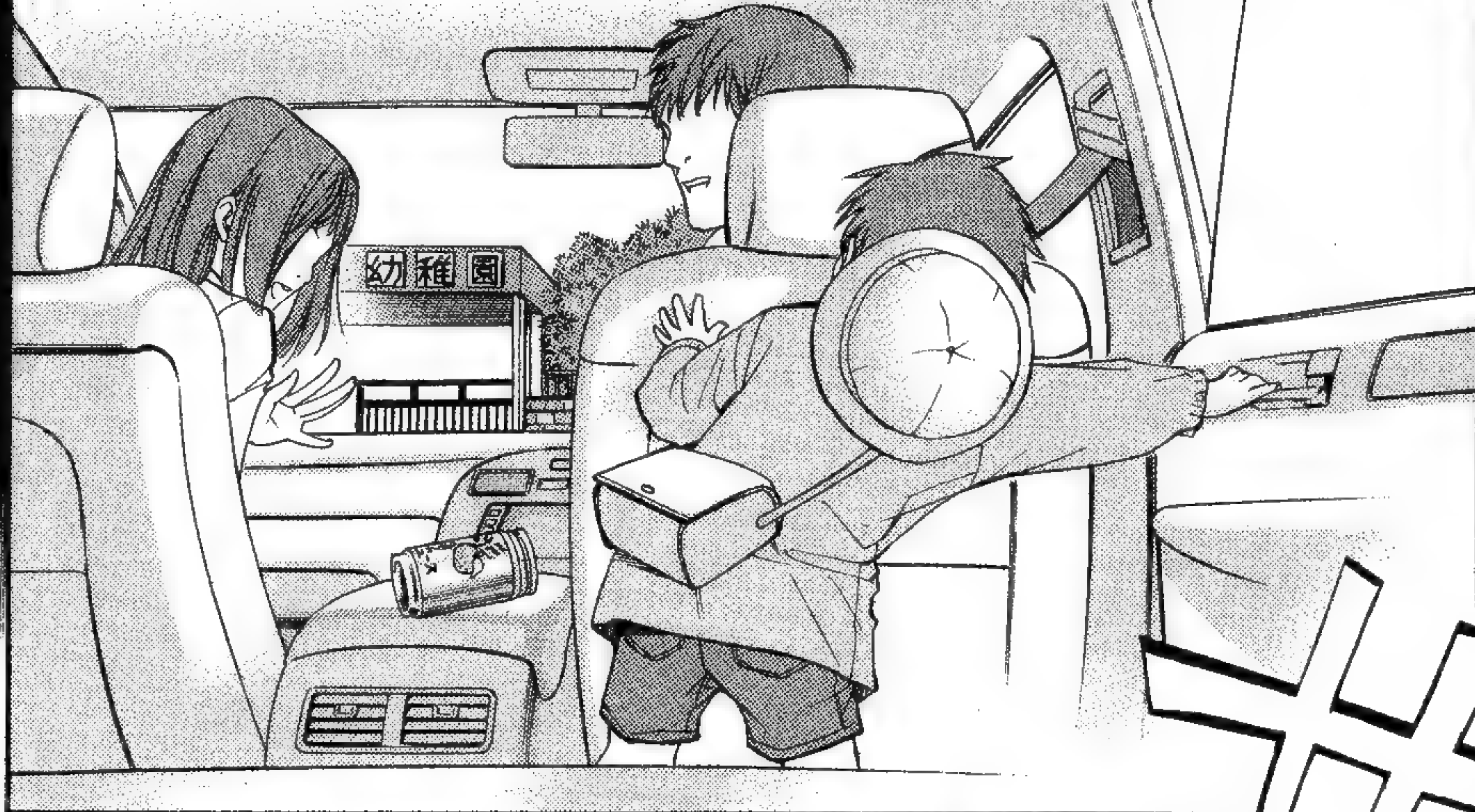
あき缶が
ブレーキの
した
下に……!!



こんな物のせいで
あの2人は……!!









メグとヒロ
連れて帰るん
だろ!?

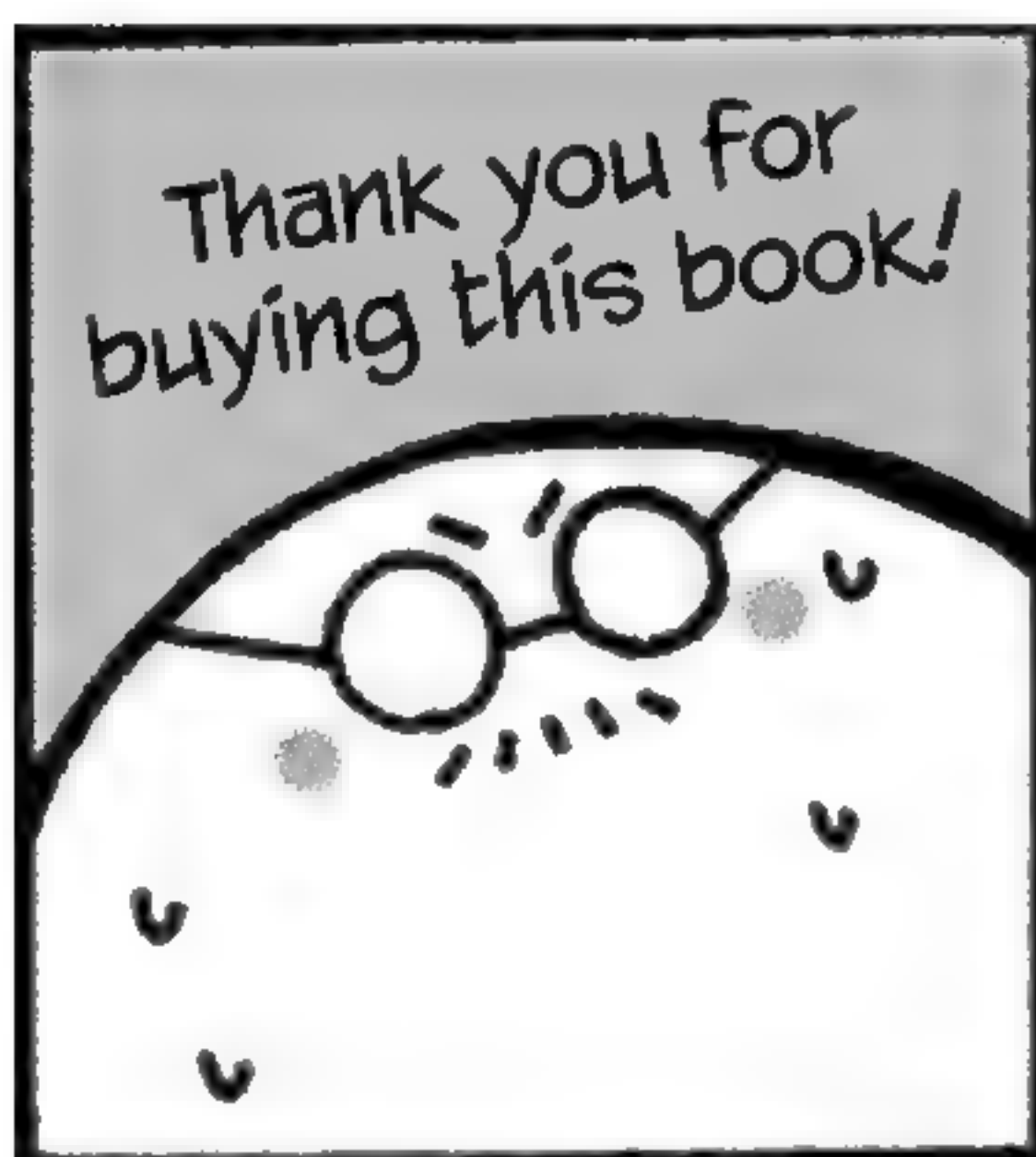


もう後悔なんか
したくない



絶対……!





Tadashi Kawashima

We'd like to see Nami in a bikini...right,
Adachitoka-sensei? ♥



Adachitoka

Okada wasn't modeled after anyone in real life,
but he is my favorite character.

ALIVE 5

KODANSHA COMICS Digital Edition

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Lettering—North Market Street Graphics



WHY DO YOU
GIVE IN?
PUNCH THEM
BACK OR
SOMETHING.



ARE YOU
ALL RIGHT,
HIROSE-
KUN?



THAT I
DON'T
WANT
DONE TO
MYSELF.

WELL...
I DON'T
WANT
TO DO
THINGS...

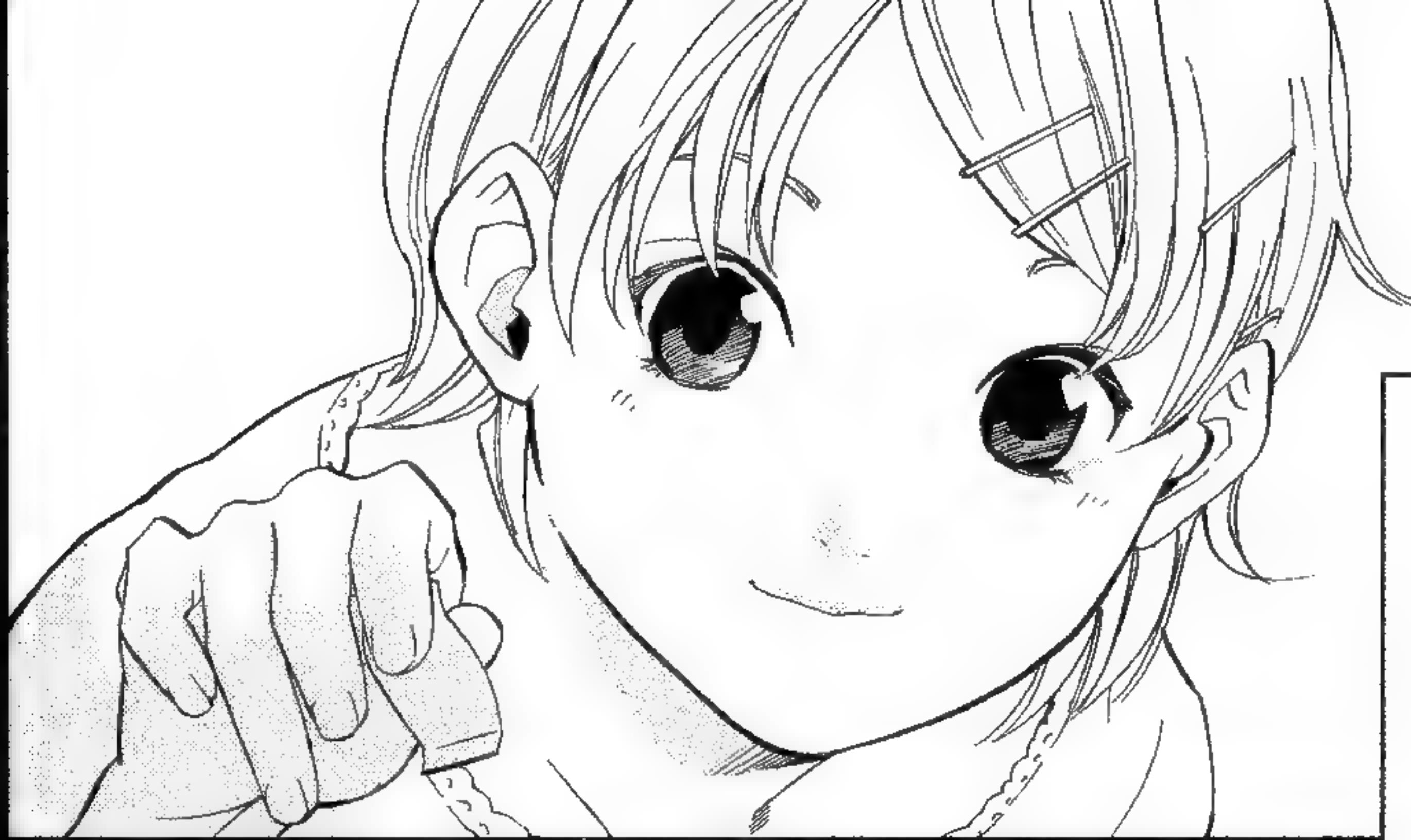


I
WAS
HAPPY.



YOU'RE
SO
BRAVE!

WOW!
UNLIKE
TAISUKE,
YOU'RE SO
NICE,
HIROSE-KUN!



AT THAT
MOMENT,
SHE
MADE ME
REALIZE

THAT
IT WAS
OKAY
TO BE
MYSELF.



Chapter 19

Back Then, I Was—

When childhood dies, its corpses are called ...?



OCHIAI-SAN,
WHERE ARE
YOU...?

YOU
FREED
MEGUMI
OCHIAI?

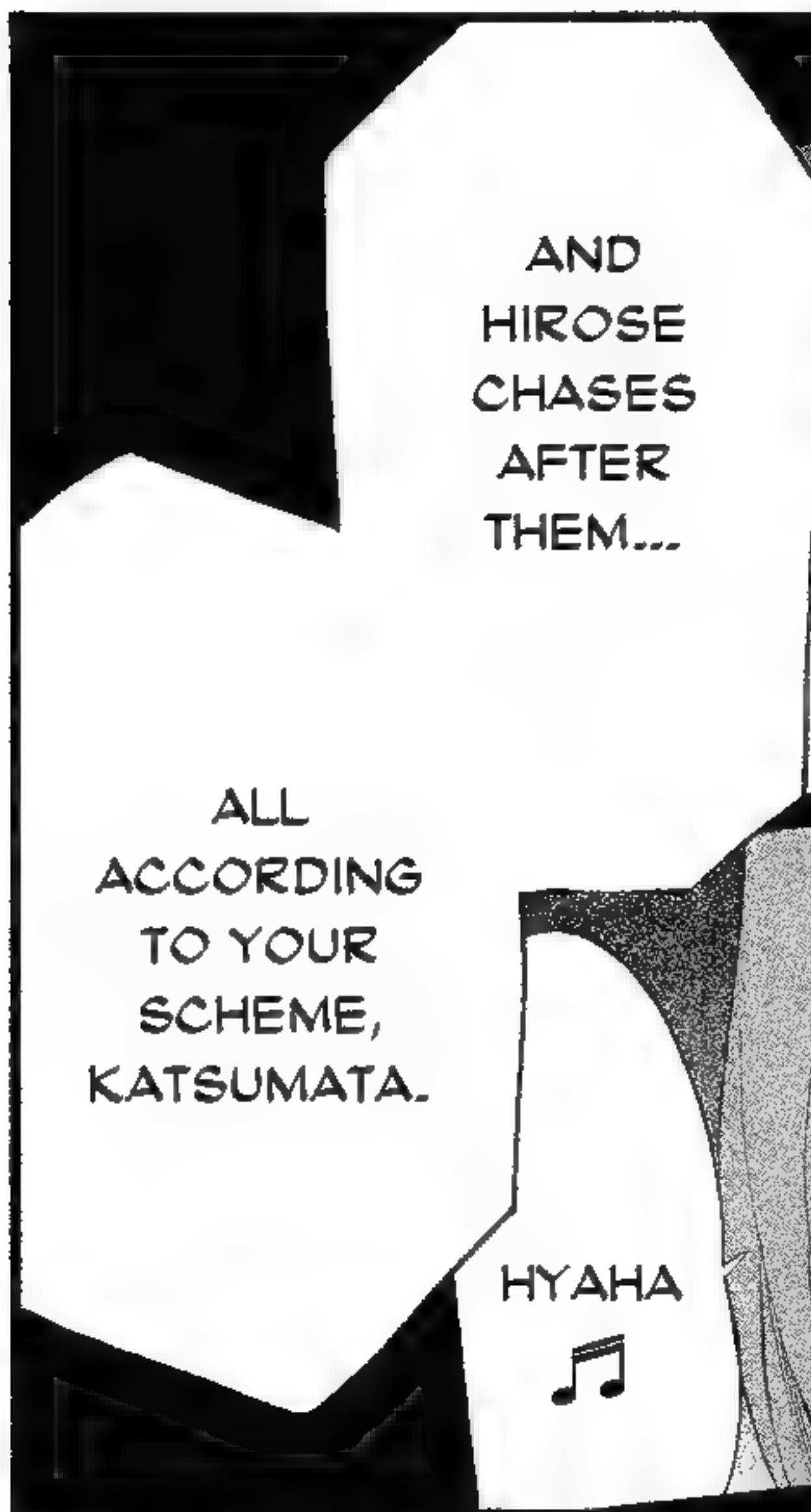


IT WILL
HELP US TO
RETRIEVE
"ACRO'S
HEART."

YES.



ARE YOU
SURE
ABOUT
THIS?



AND
HIROSE
CHASES
AFTER
THEM...

WHY?

WH...

THAT'S
RIGHT
♥
KANON
WILL FREE
YOU.

KANON THINKS
MEGUMI OCHIAI
IS IN THE WAY,
SO SHE HELPS
HER ESCAPE.

ALL
ACCORDING
TO YOUR
SCHEME,
KATSUMATA.

HYAHA



BECAUSE
I'M
A NICE
GIRL.

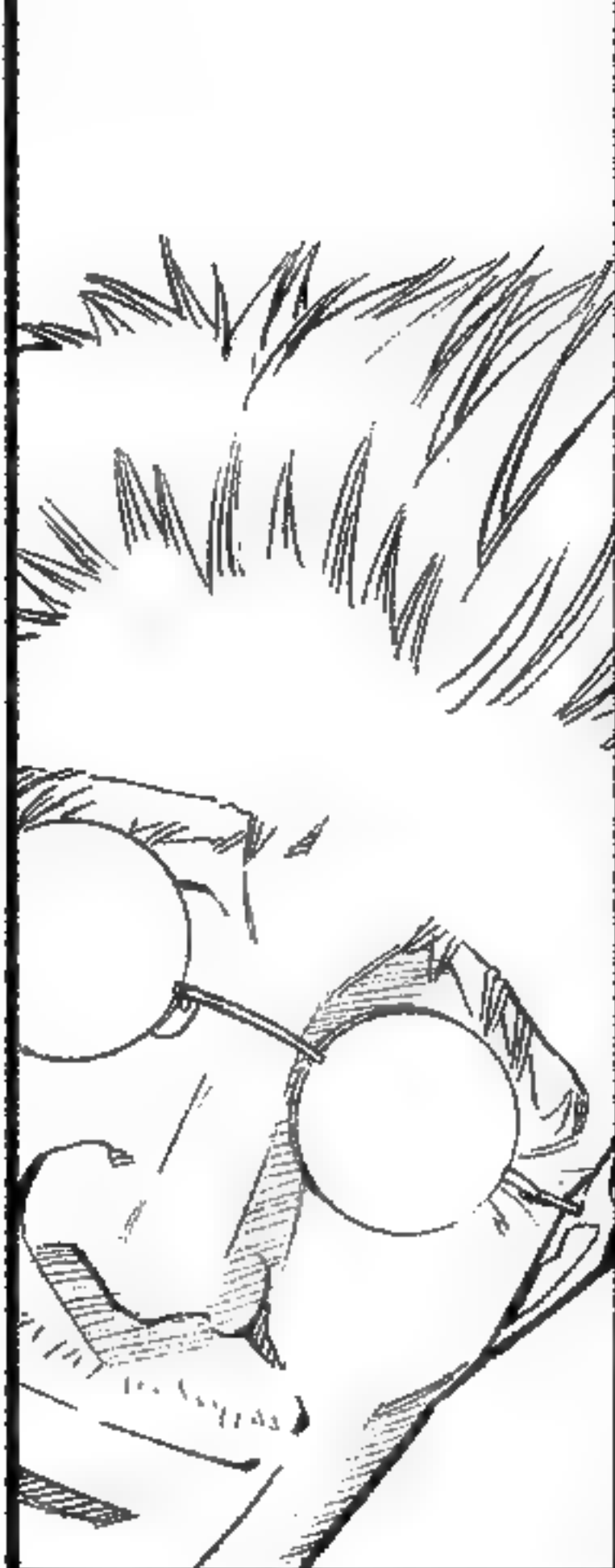
YOU'RE
FREE
TO DO
ANYTHING,
KANON-
KUN.

FREE
TO DO
ANY-
THING...



WHAT WILL
HAPPEN TO
HIROSE-KUN...?

IF
SOMETHING
HAPPENS
TO MEGUMI
OCHIAI...

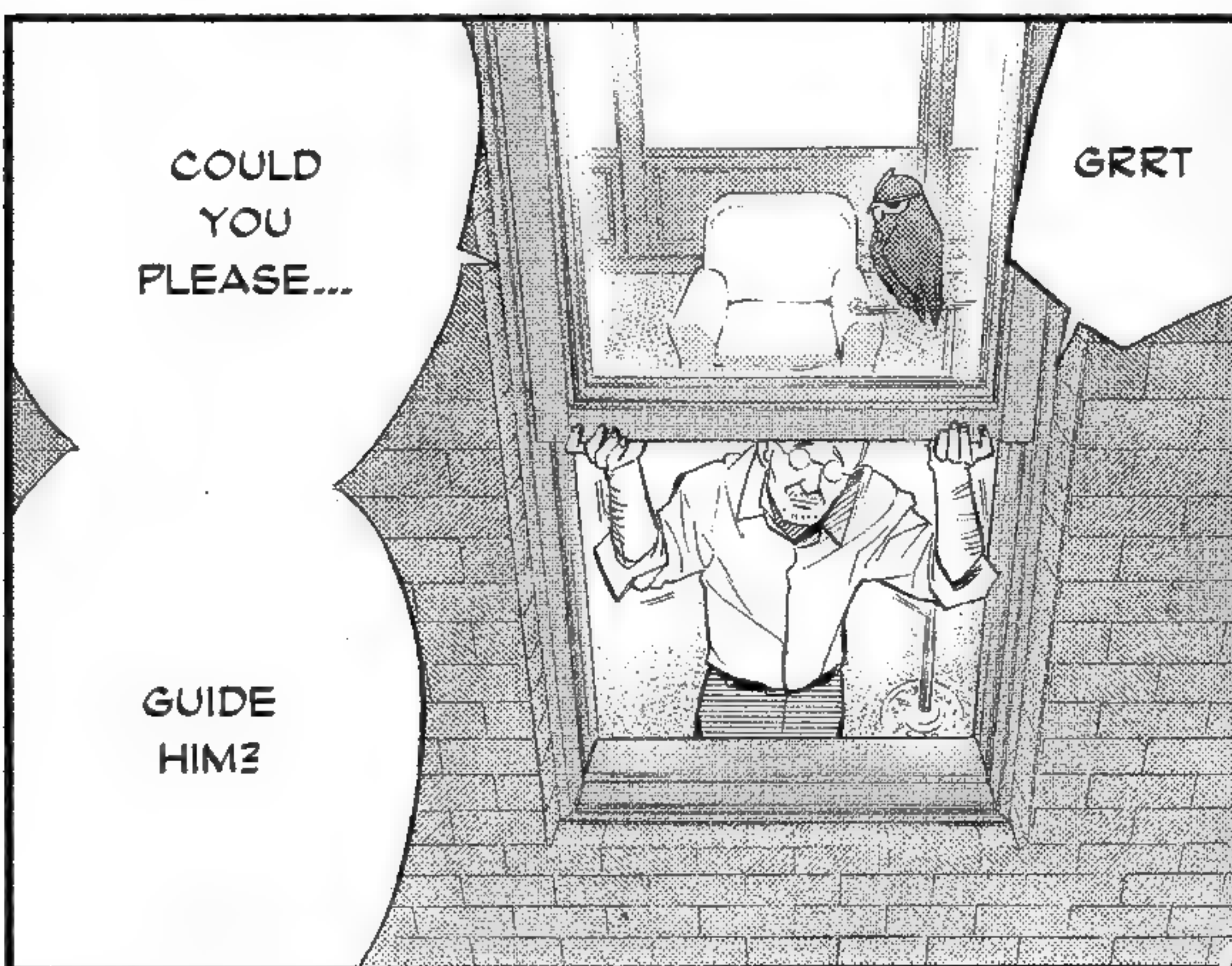


TAISUKE
KANOUE?



BUT, IF THAT
HAPPENS,
WE NEED
TO FIND
ANOTHER
VESSEL...

OF
COURSE,
WE CAN'T
AFFORD
TO HAVE
HIROSE-
KUN HAVE A
BREAKDOWN.



COULD
YOU
PLEASE...

GUIDE
HIM?

GRRRT

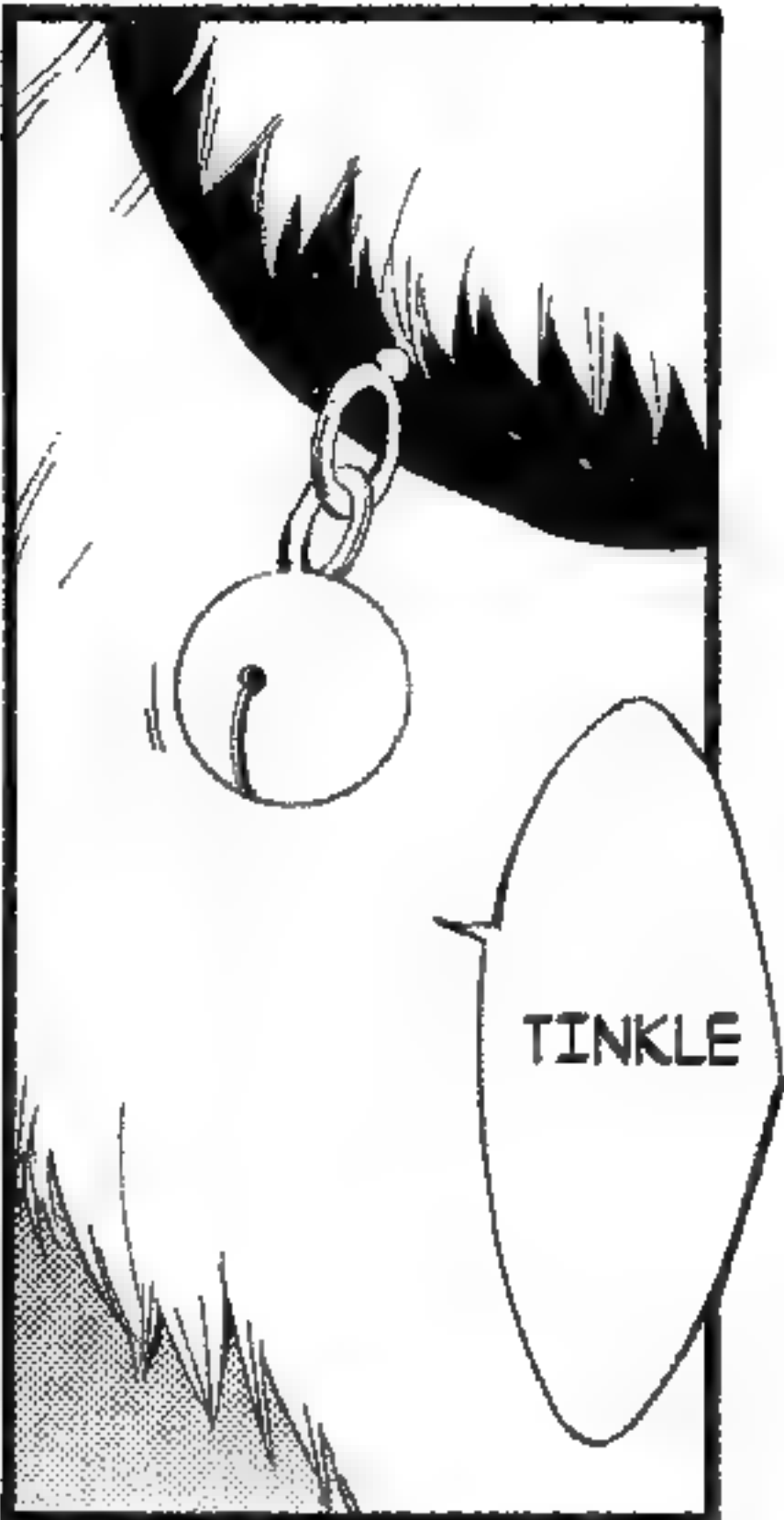


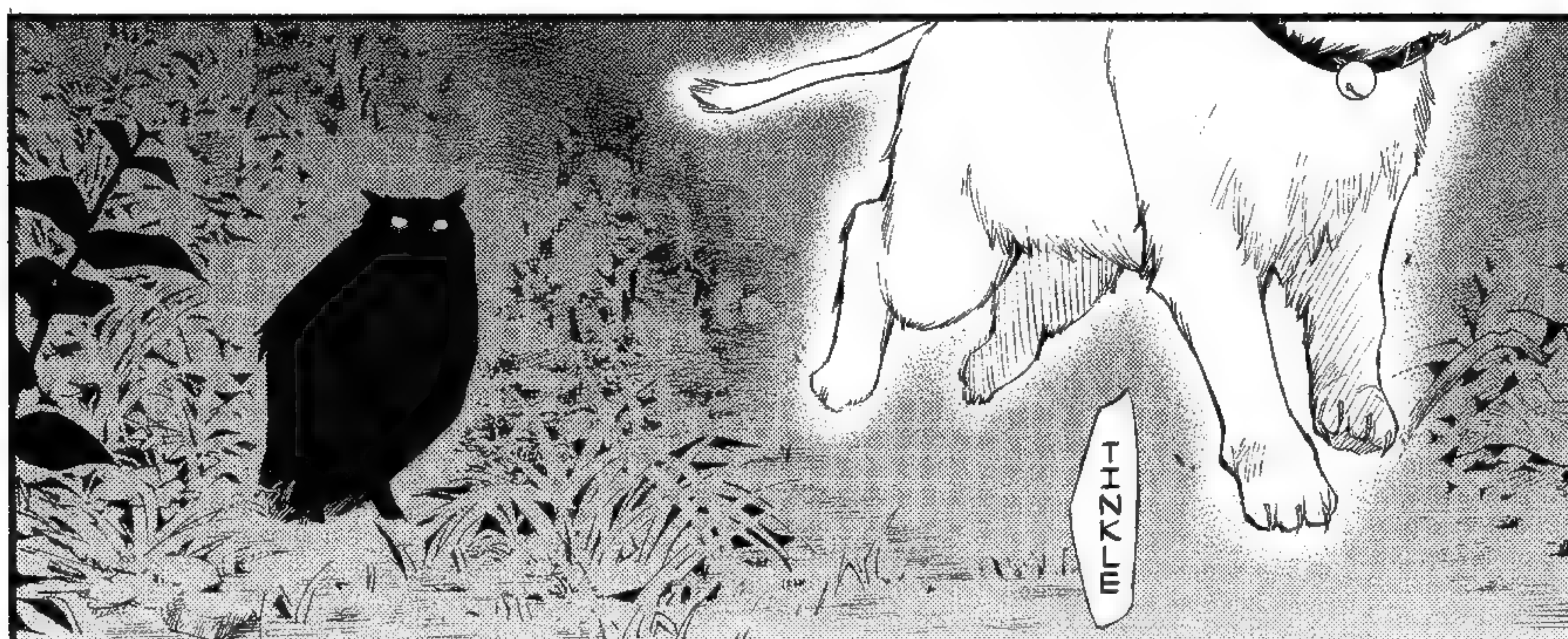
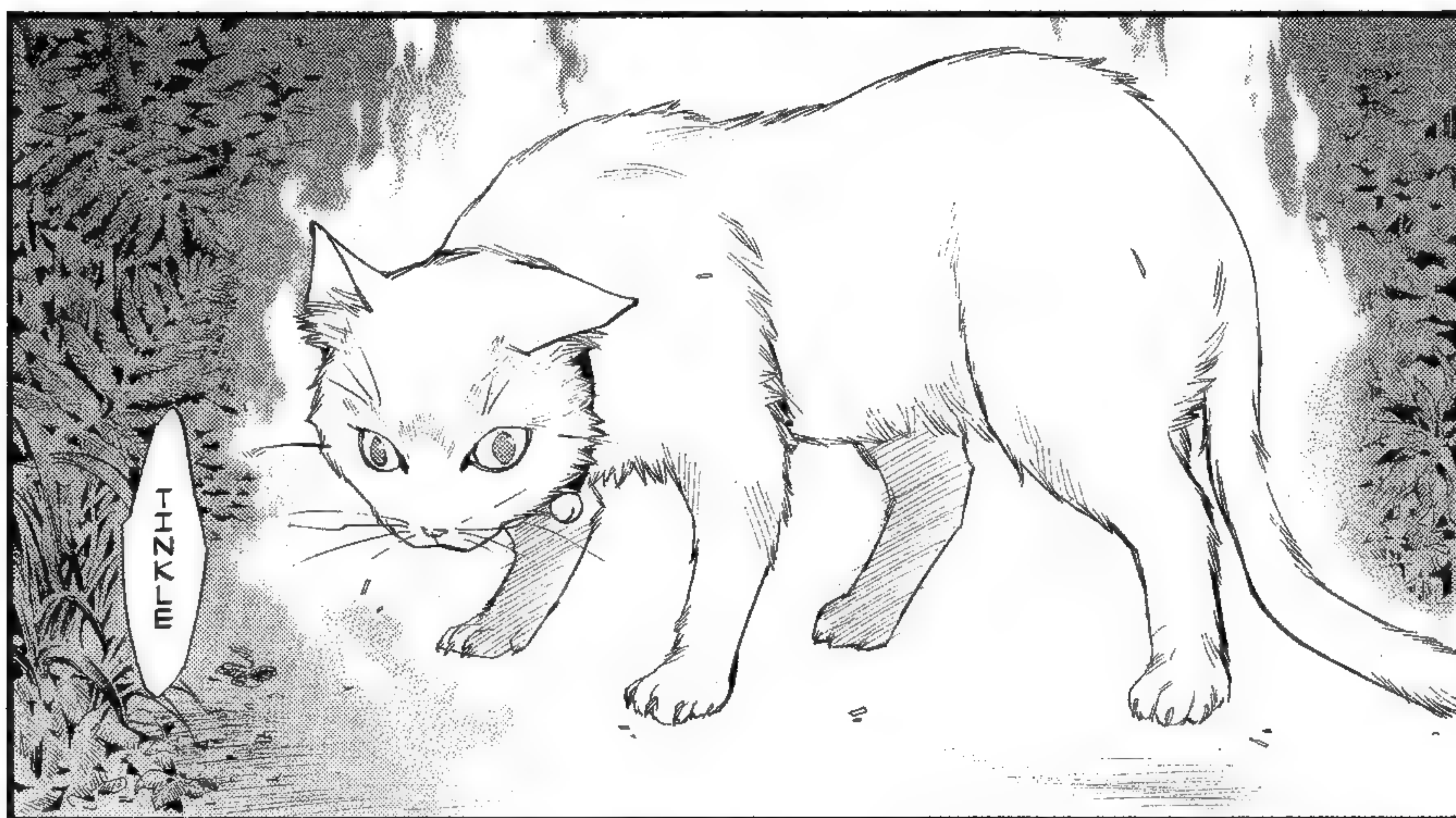
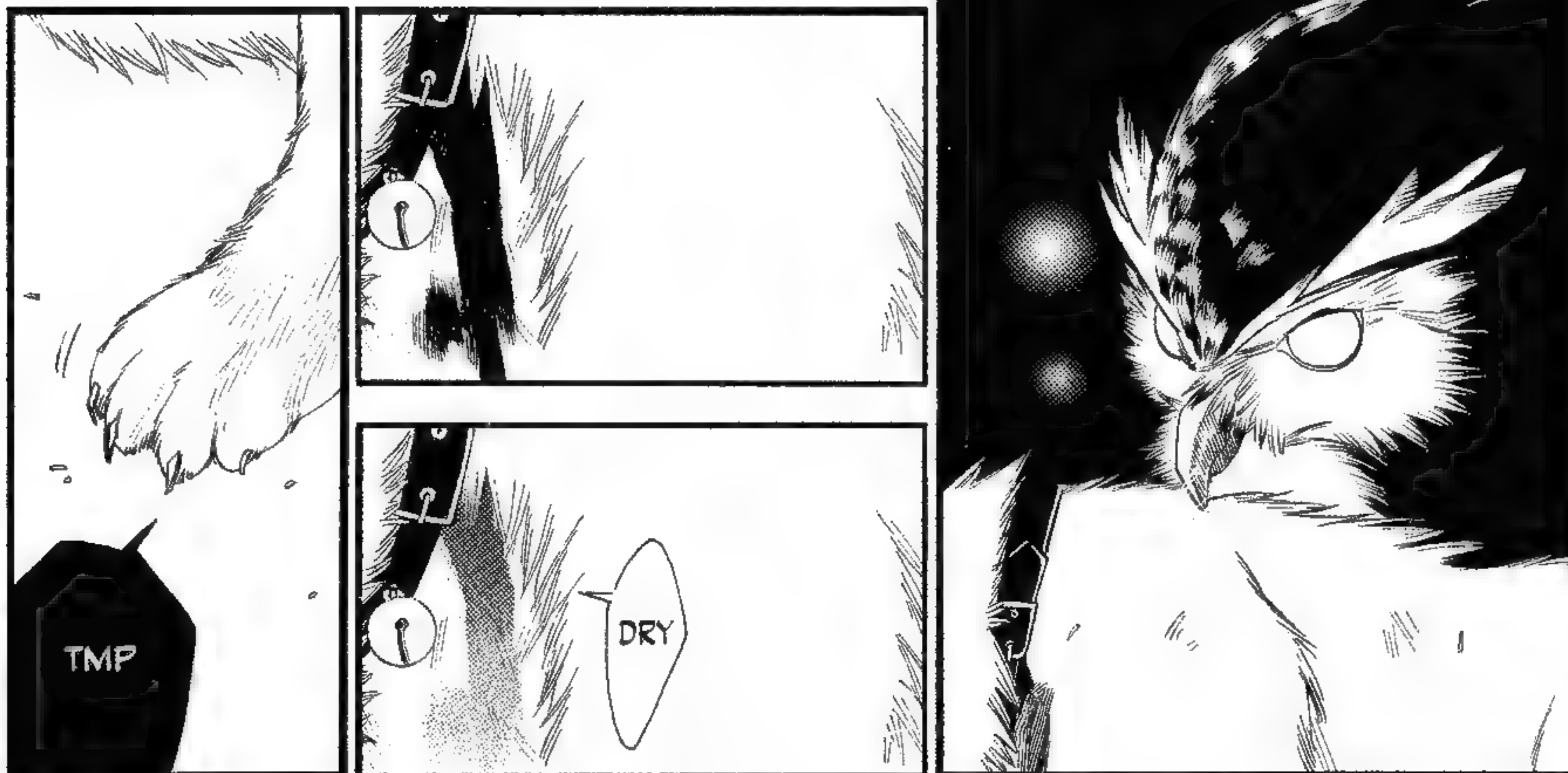
FOR NOW,
I'D LIKE TO
SEE HOW
HIROSE-KUN
EVOLVES.

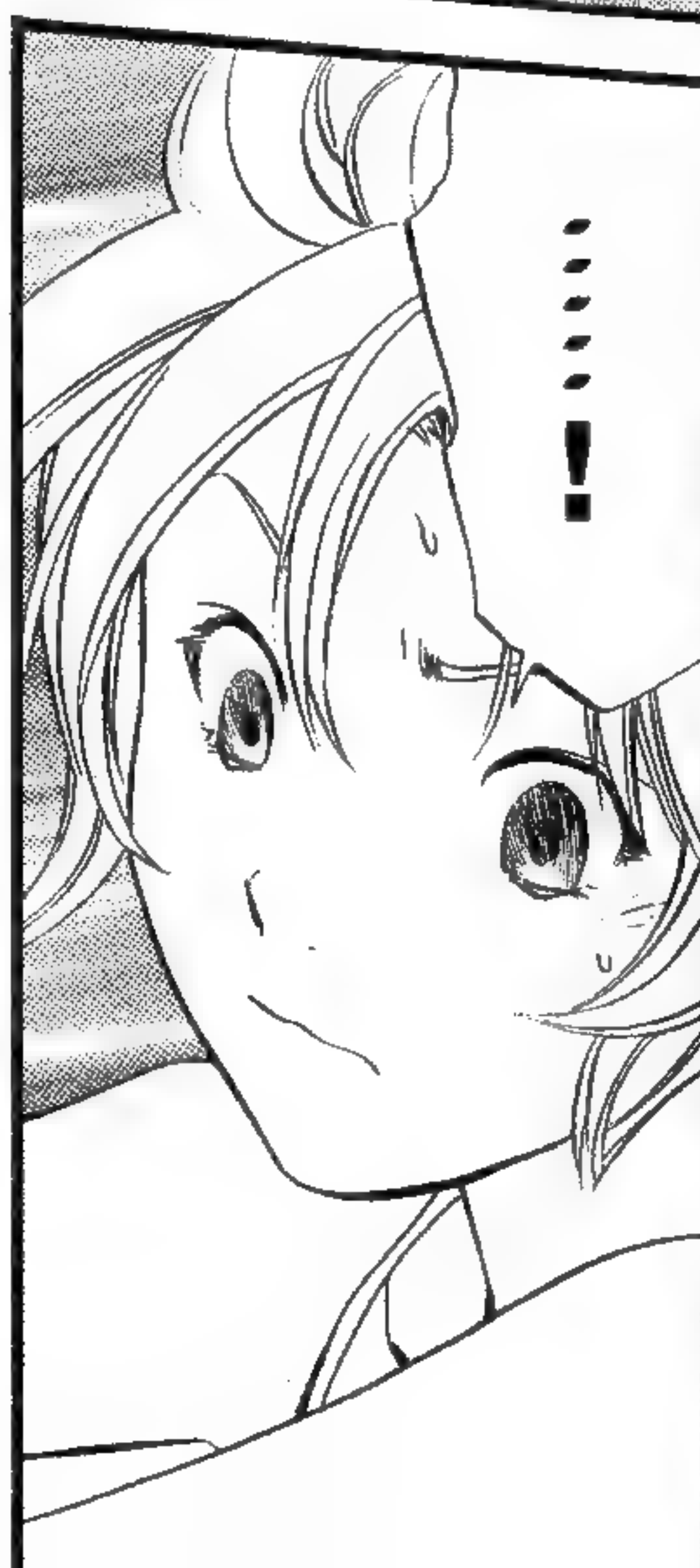


I
SUPPOSE...

FLAP









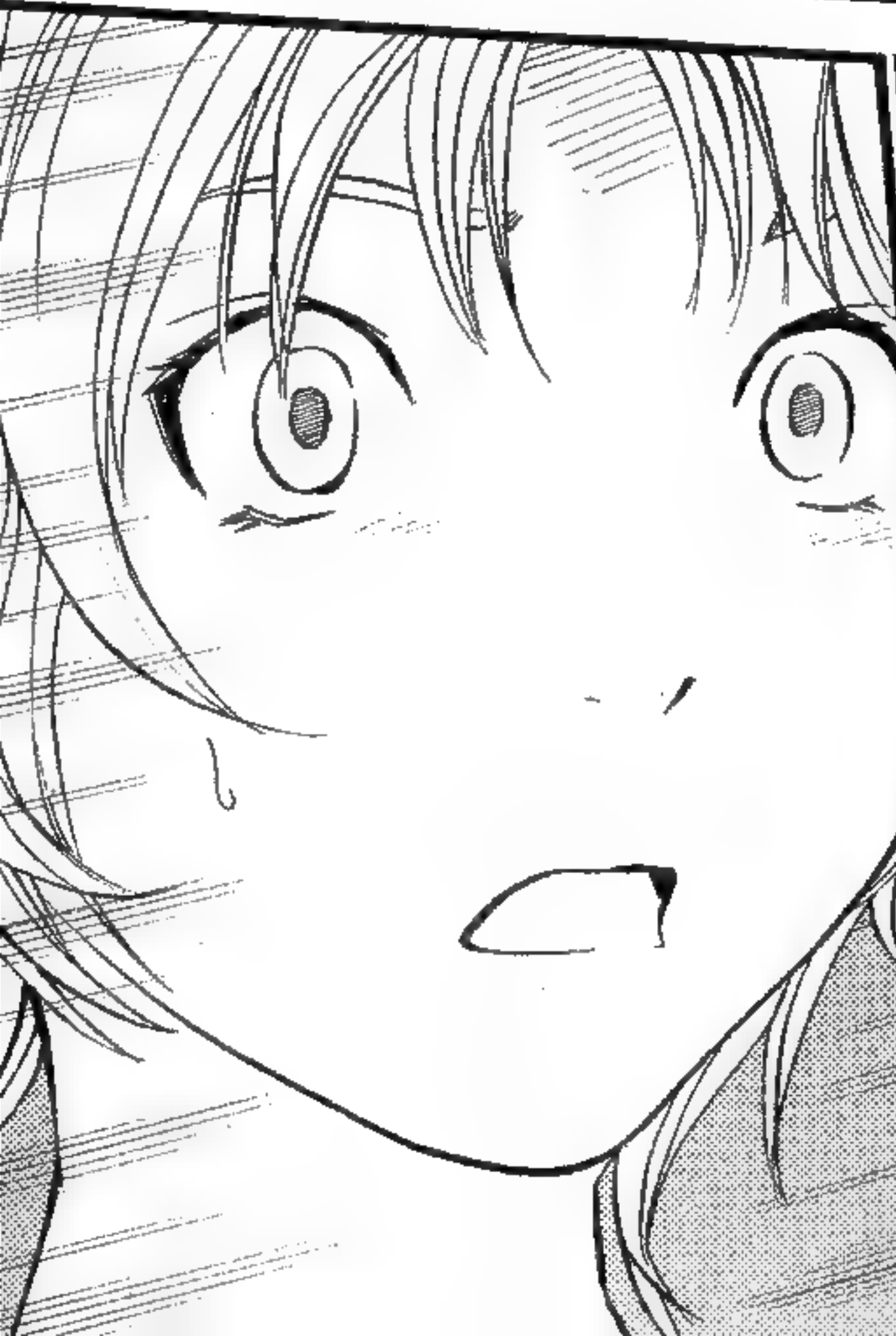
NO.
I NEED
TO SEND
YOU...



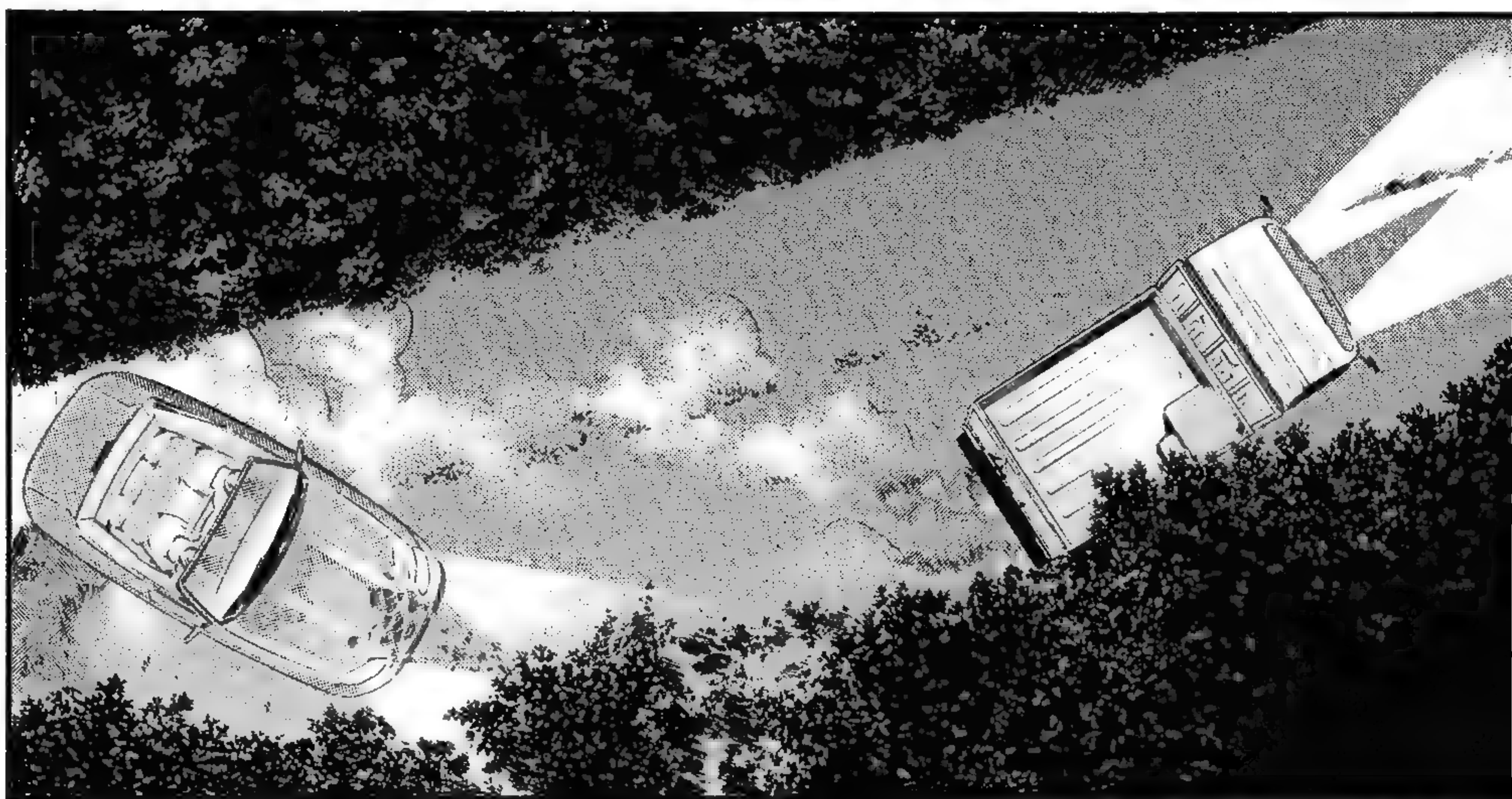
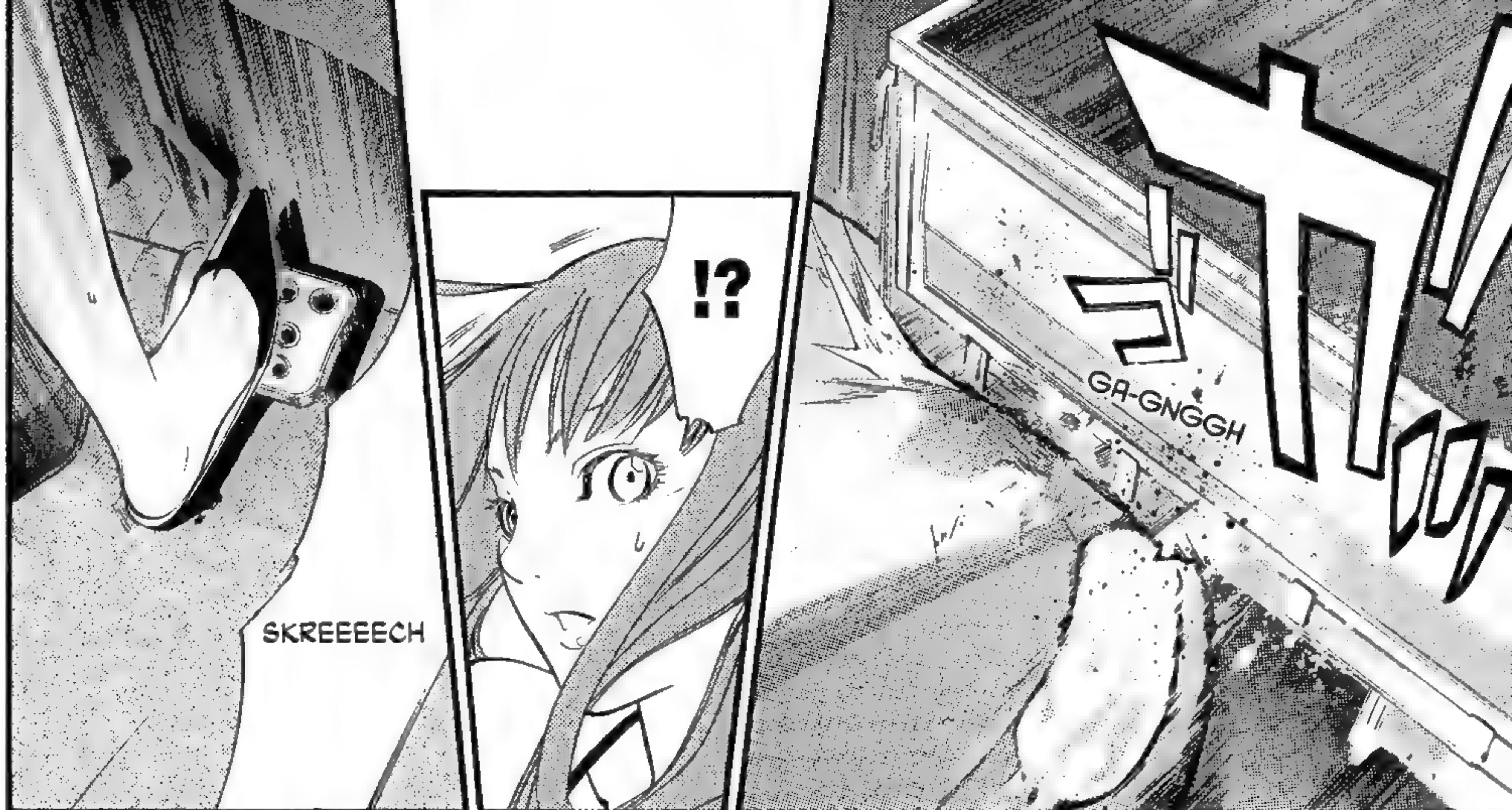
U-UMM,
KANON-SAN,
I'LL GET
OFF HERE...



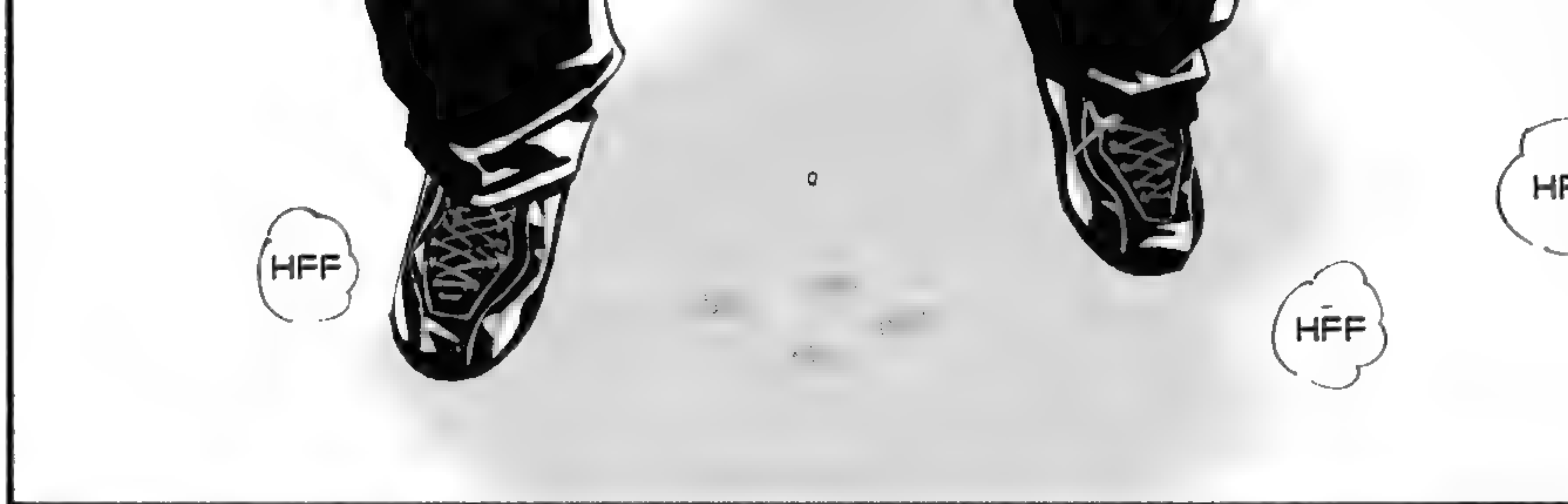
TO
HEAVEN.



EH...







OCHIAI-SAN...
WHERE ARE
YOU...?

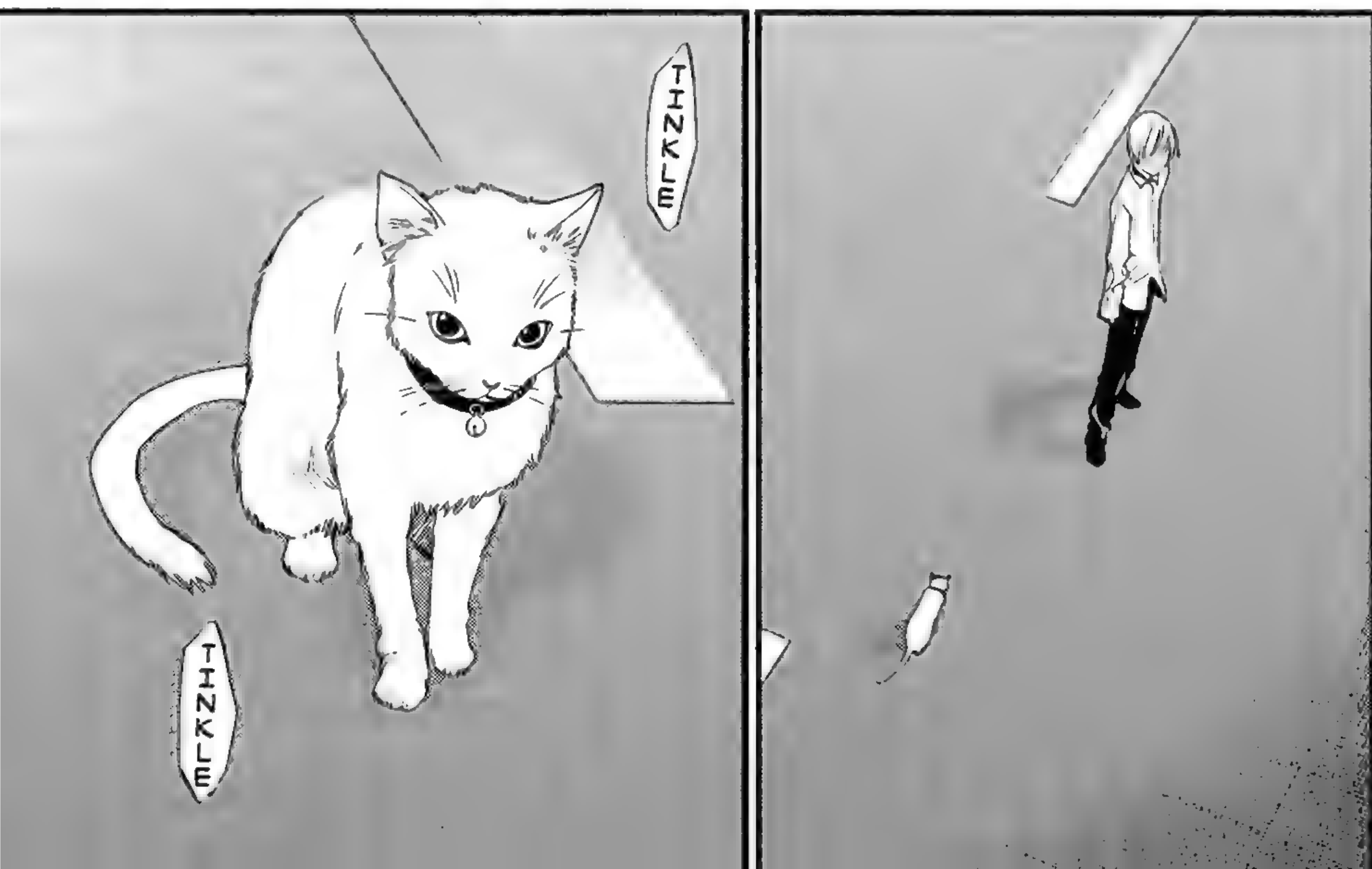


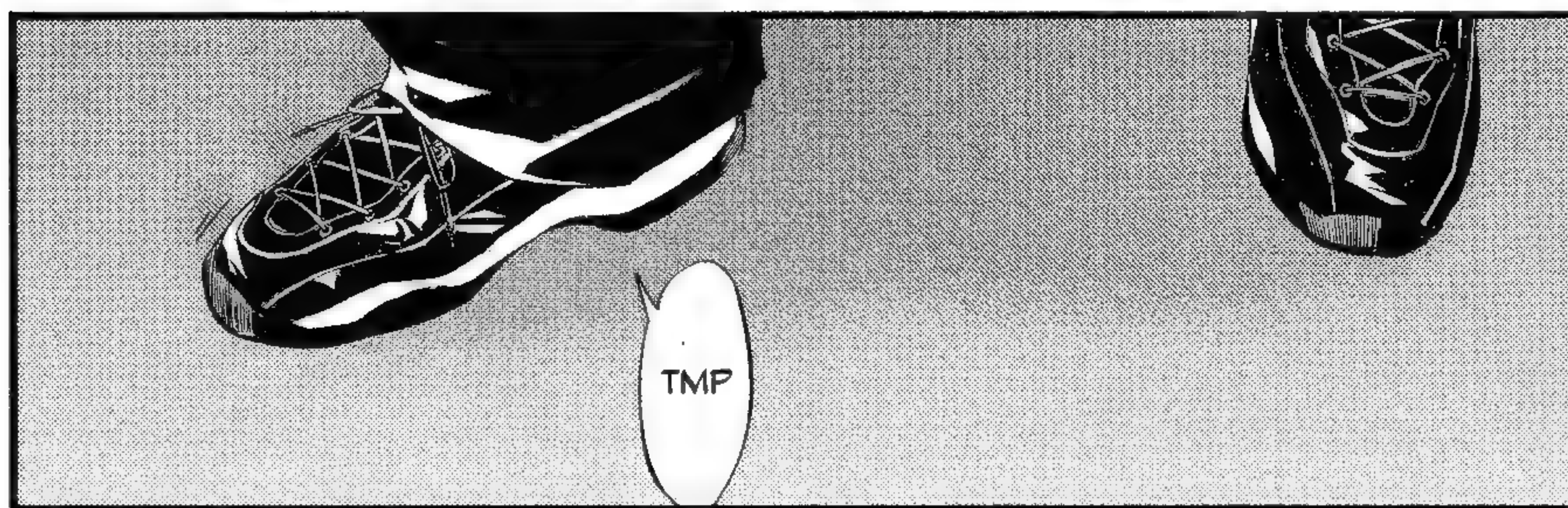
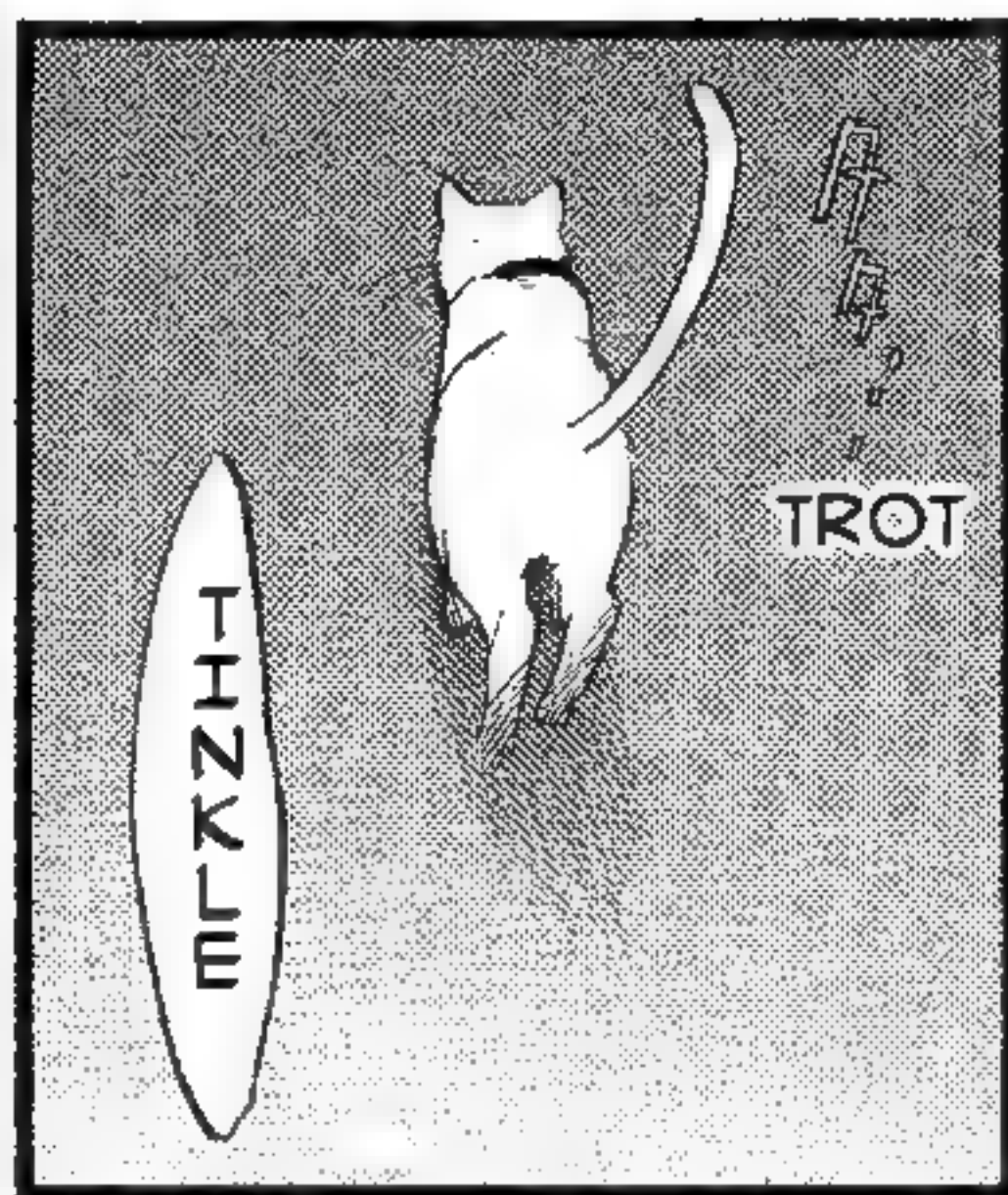
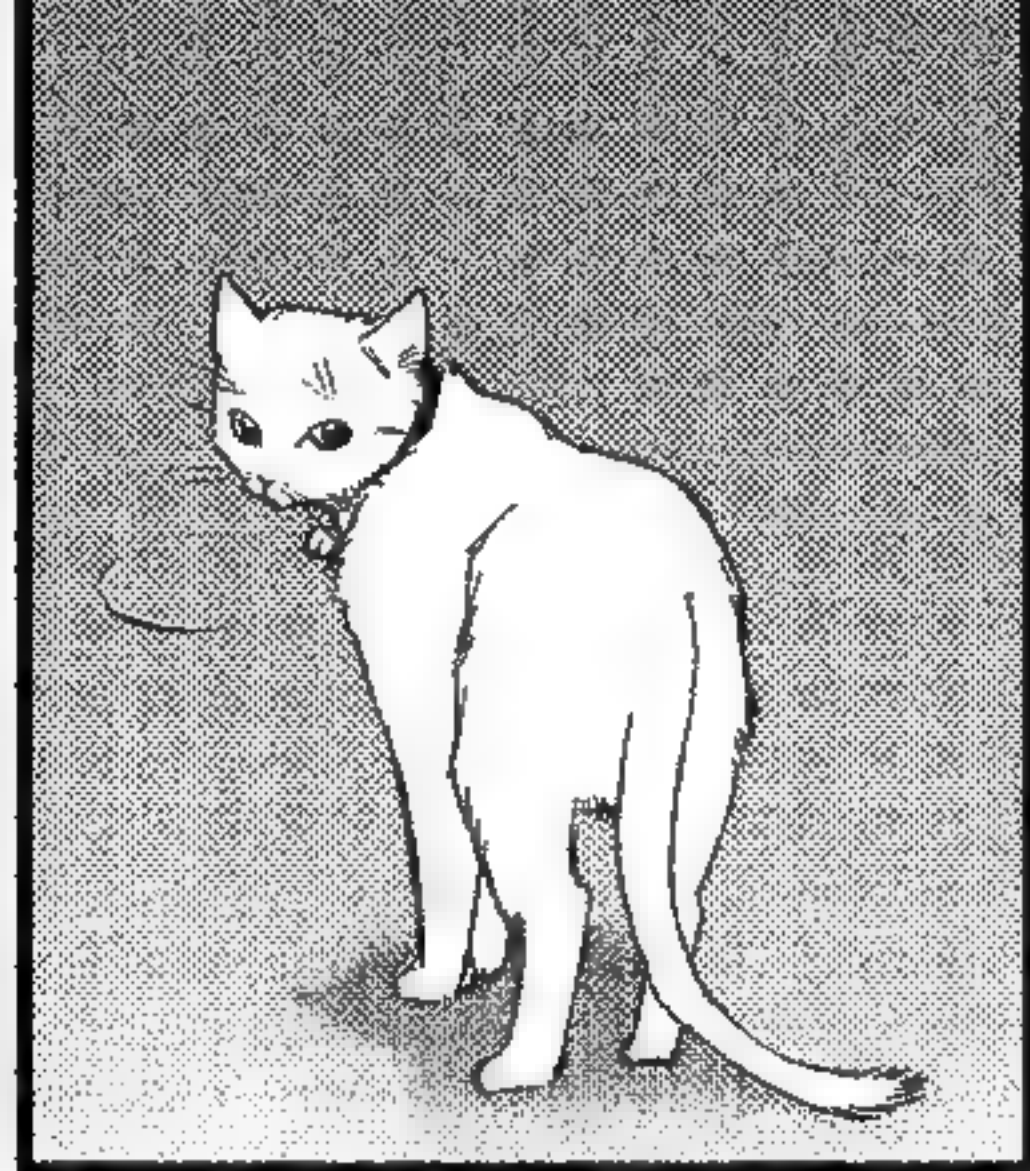
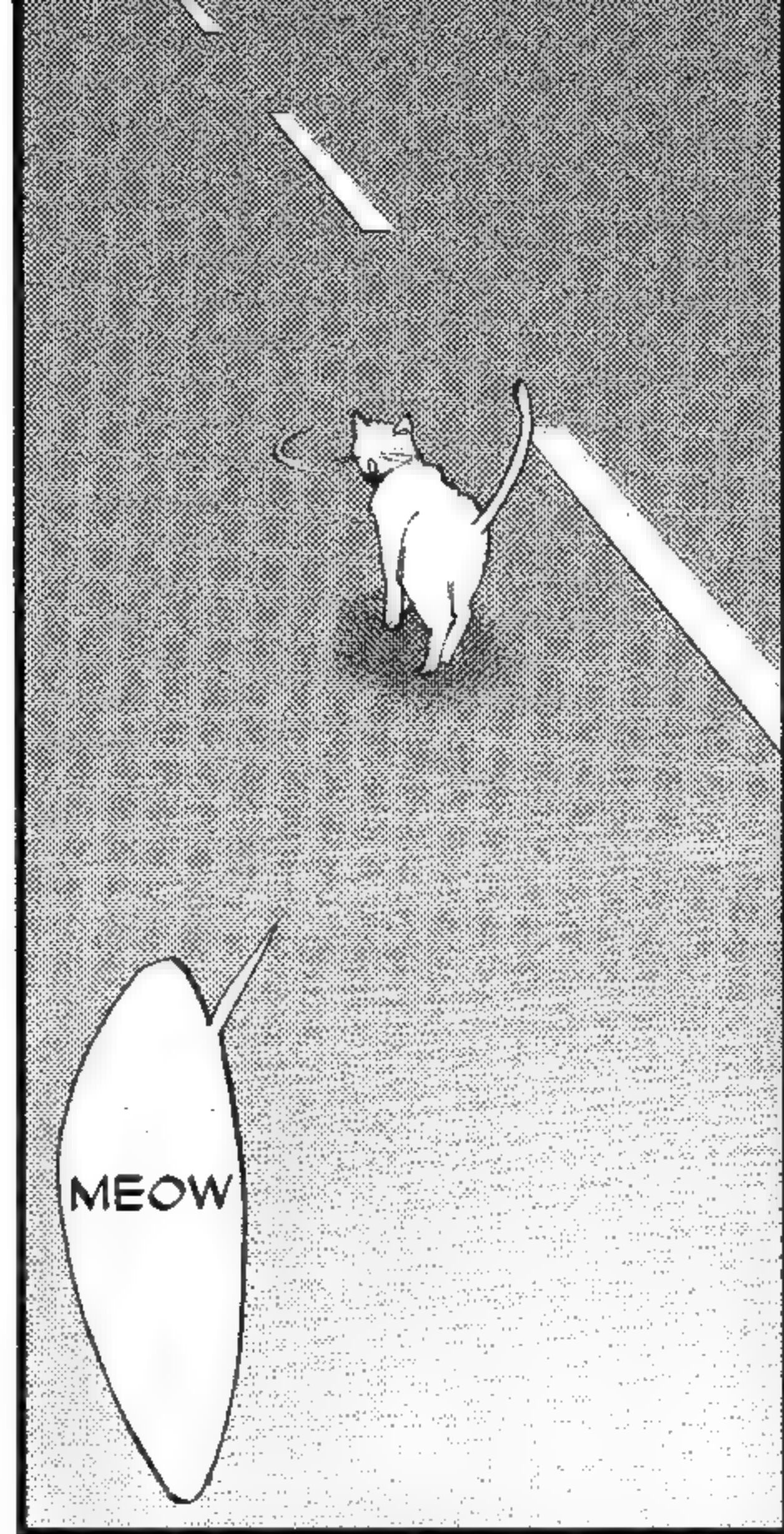
WHAT
AM I
SWEATING
ABOUT,
BEING
WAY OUT
HERE...

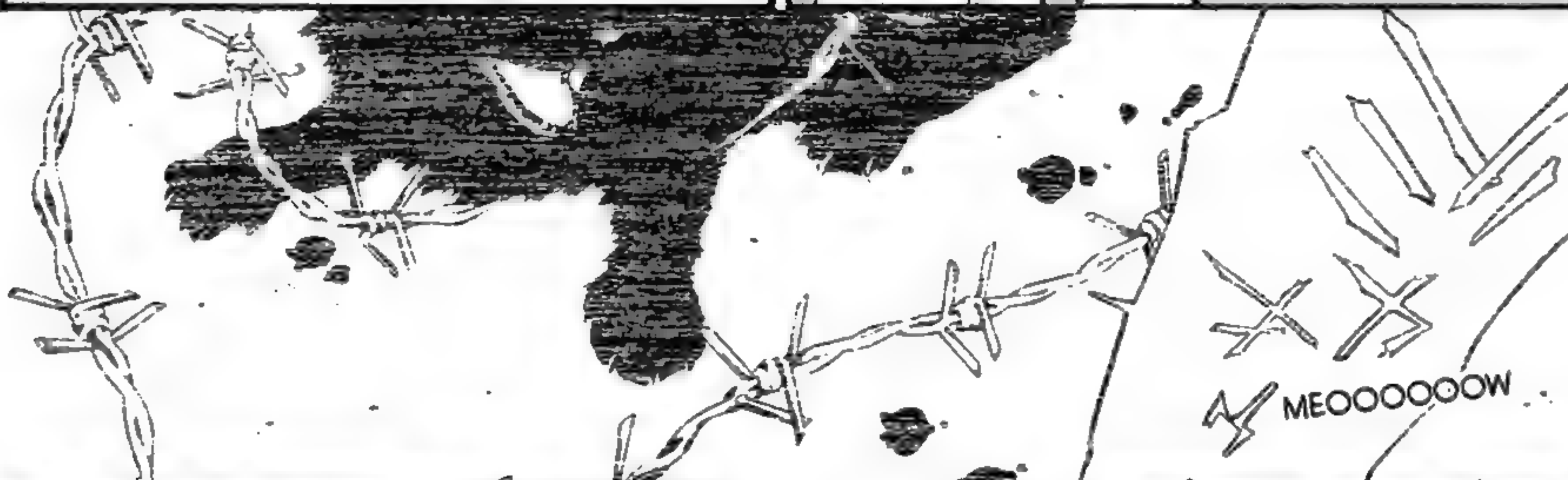
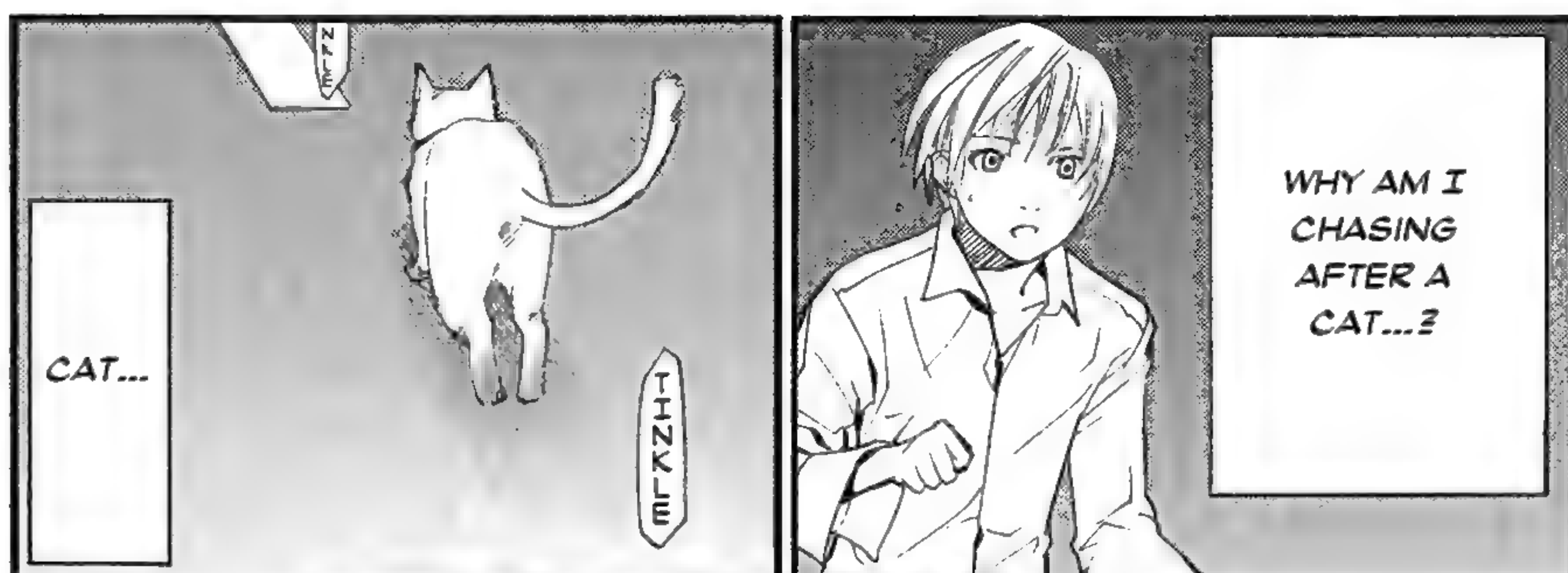
I'M
PA-
THETIC.



WHERE
AM
I...?









WHAT
DID I
DO TO
IT...?



WE HAVEN'T
SEEN ANY
CRIME IN THIS
TOWN FOR A
LONG WHILE.

We're only
snacking
on some
somen.

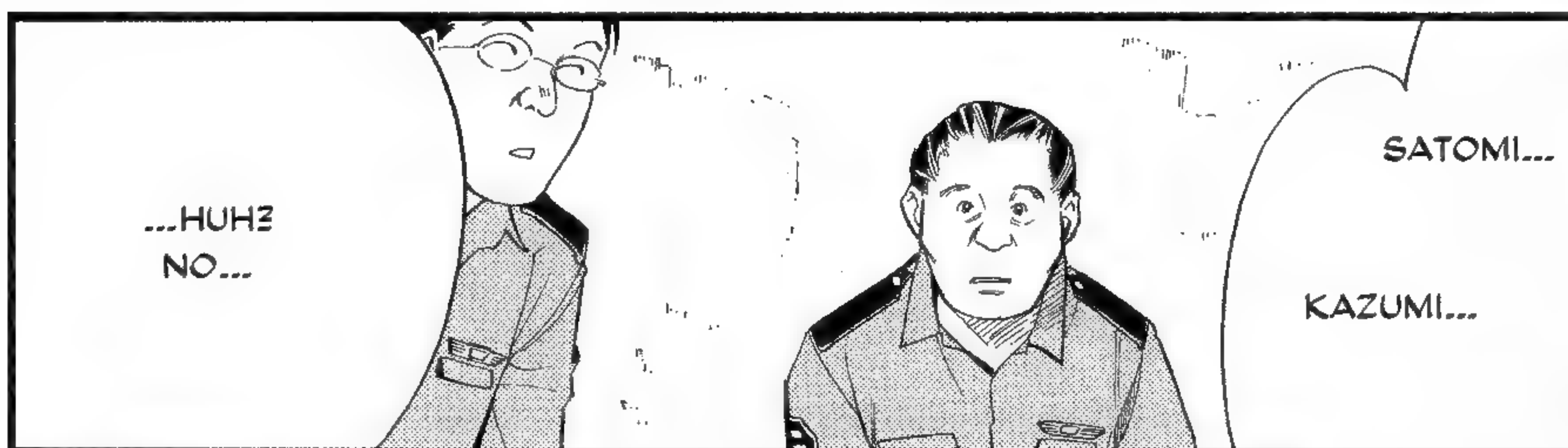
HEY,
GO BACK
TO WORK.

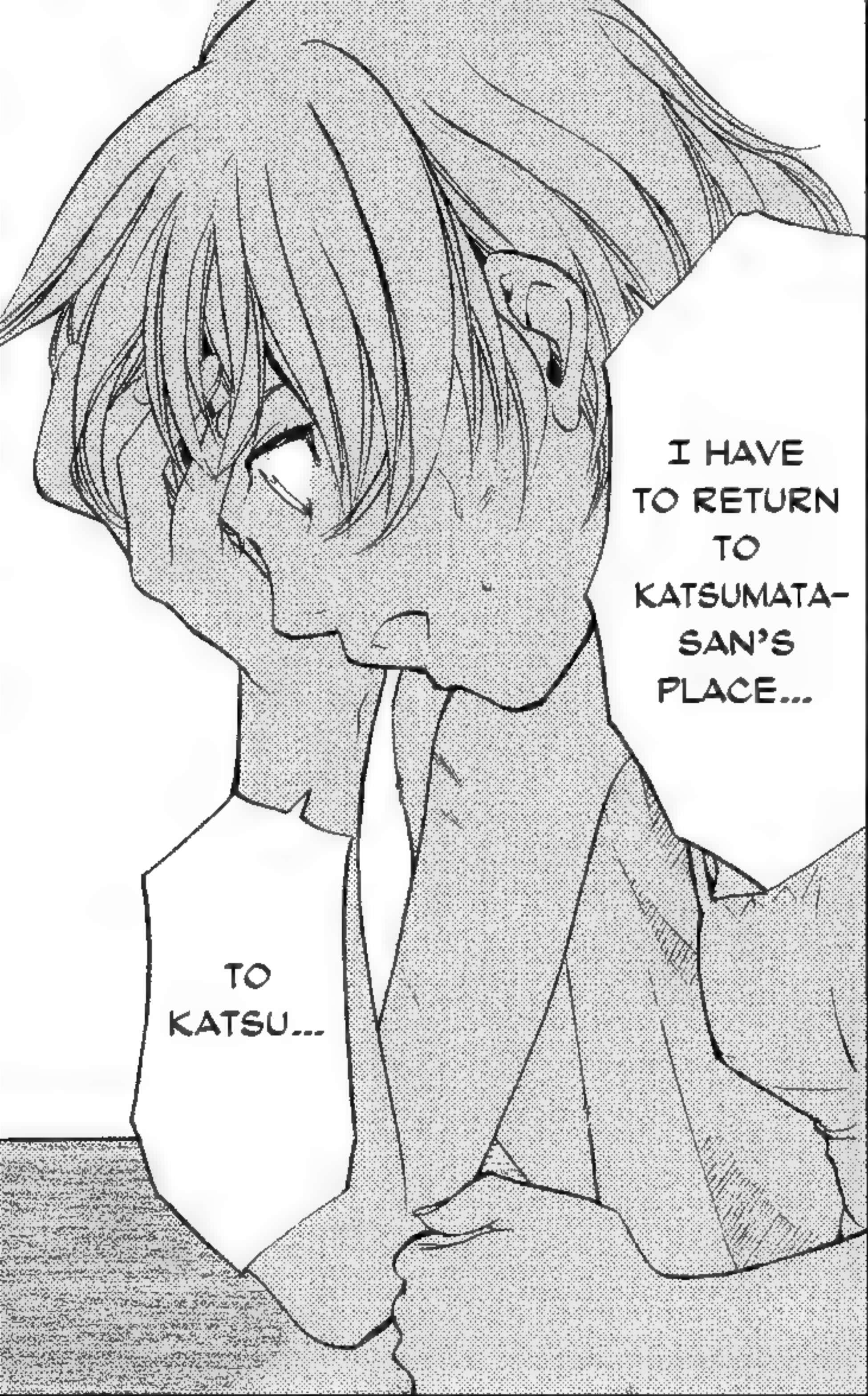
Are you
hungry
already?



TANABE-SAN,
LET'S EAT.

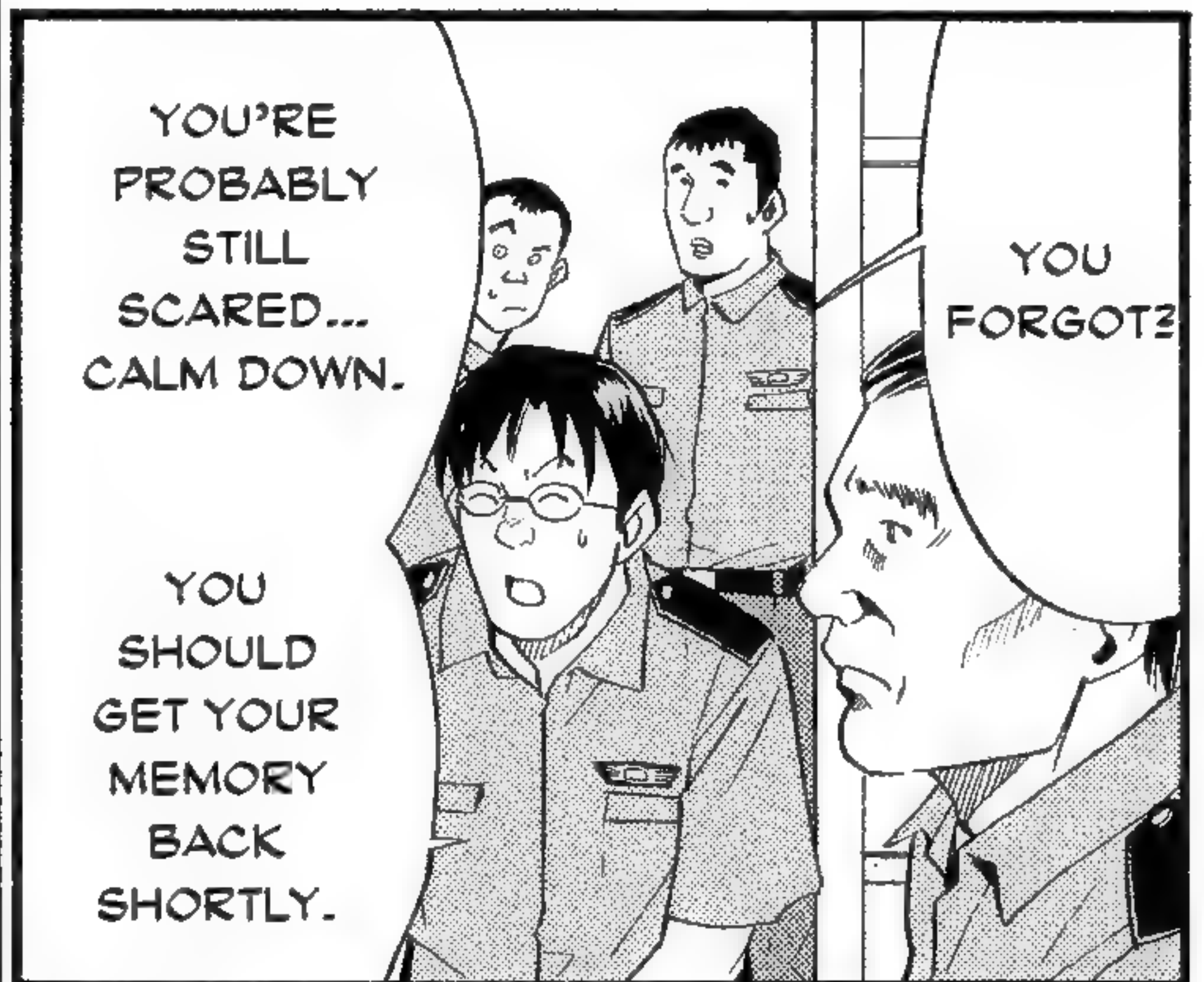






I HAVE
TO RETURN
TO
KATSUMATA-
SAN'S
PLACE...

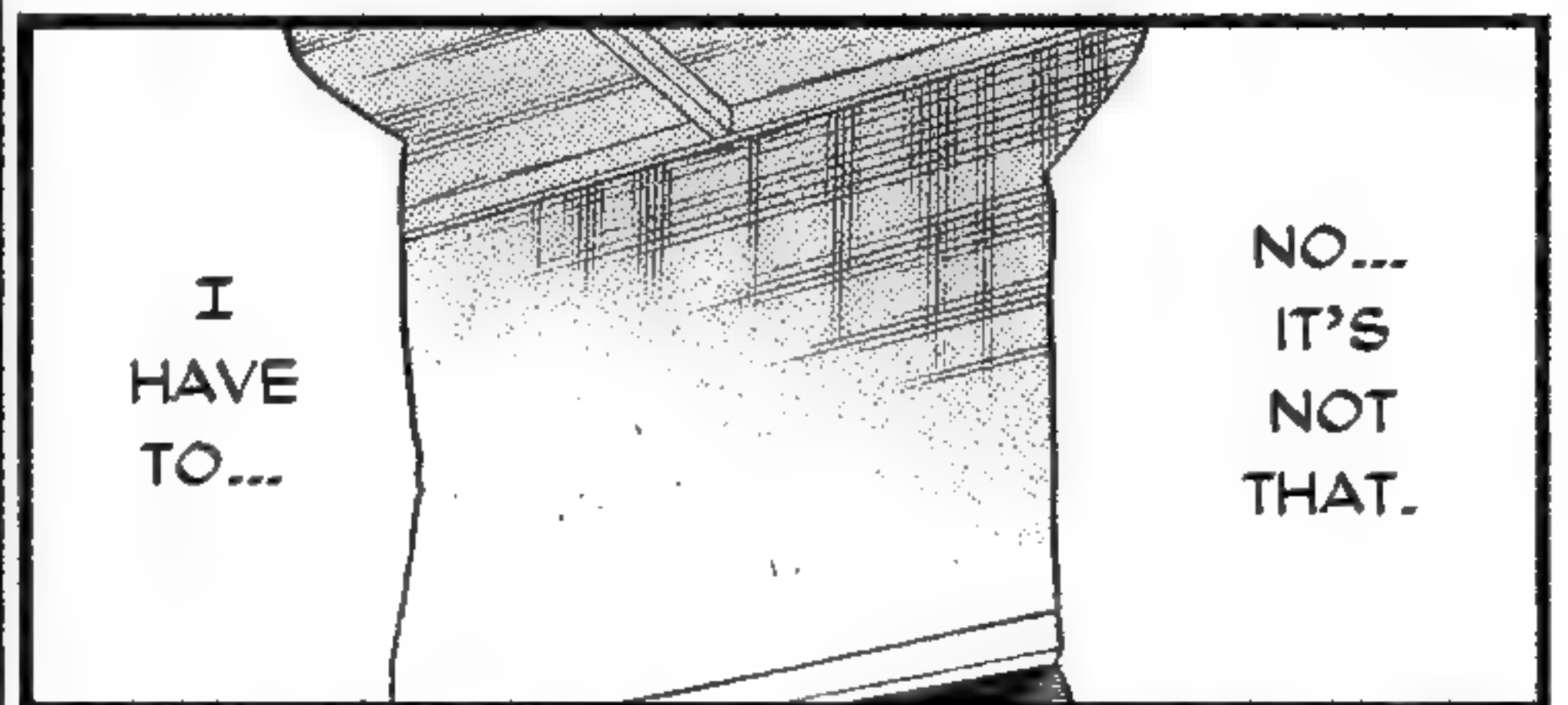
TO
KATSU...



YOU'RE
PROBABLY
STILL
SCARED...
CALM DOWN.

YOU
SHOULD
GET YOUR
MEMORY
BACK
SHORTLY.

YOU
FORGOT?



I
HAVE
TO...

NO...
IT'S
NOT
THAT.



TO

YOU

MUST

RETURN

ME



I WANT TO
GO BACK
HOME!!
TO DAD,
AND MOM,
AND...

NO...I
DON'T
WANT TO
RETURN
TO THAT
PLACE.



.....
?



JUST
CALM
DOWN.

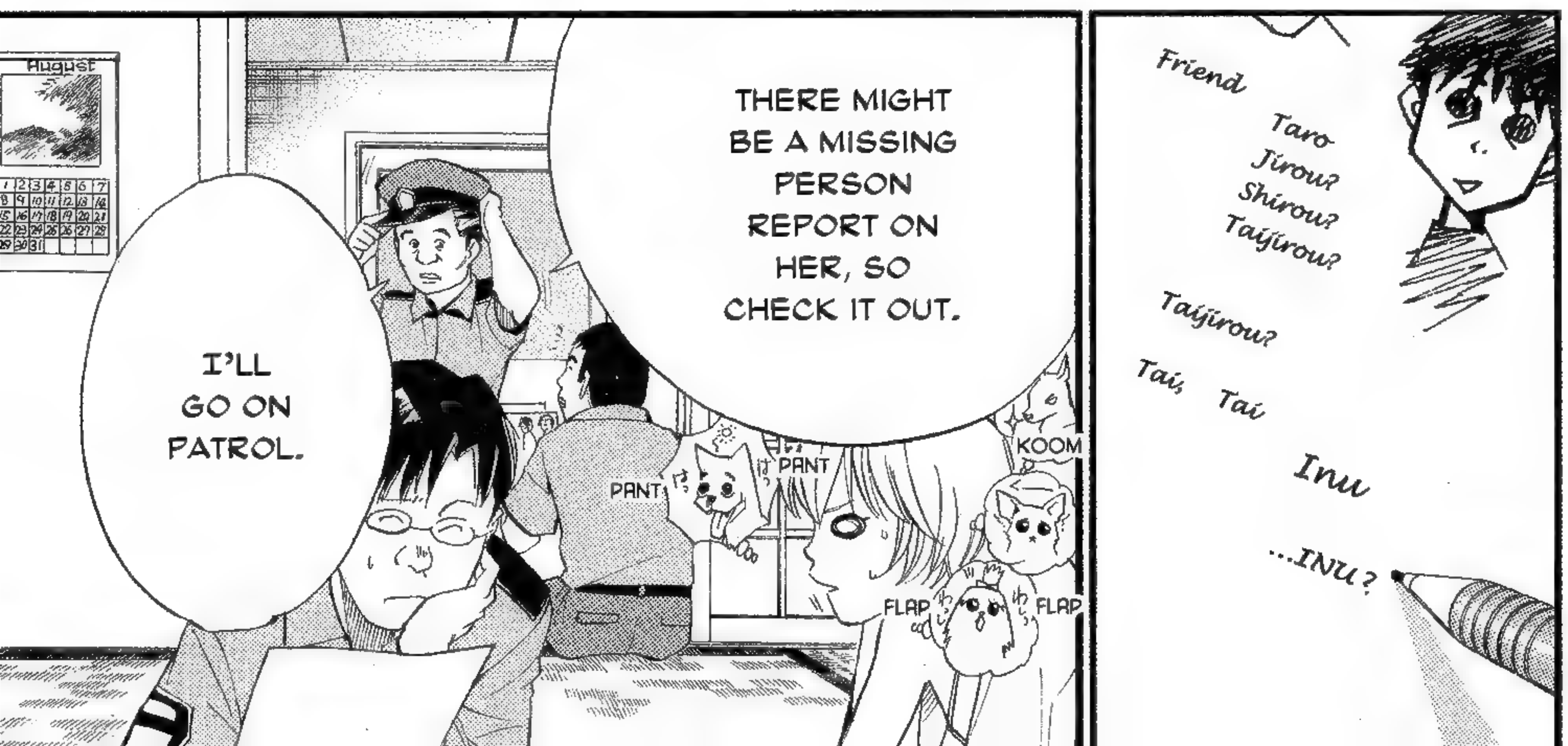
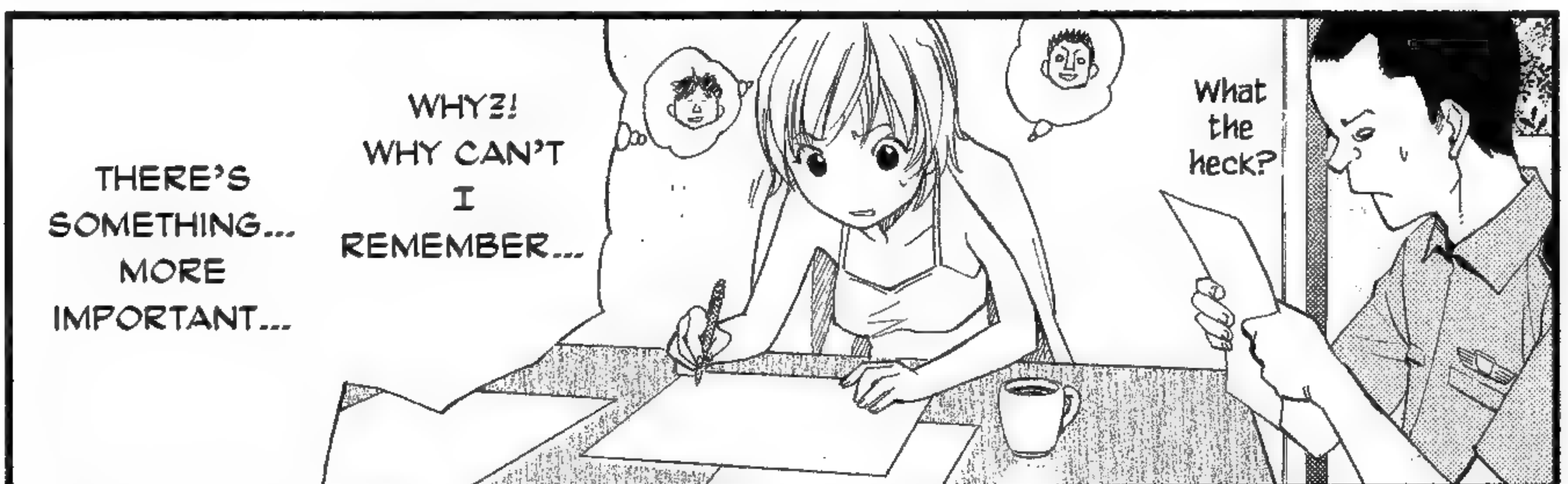
OCHIAI-
SAN...
RIGHT?

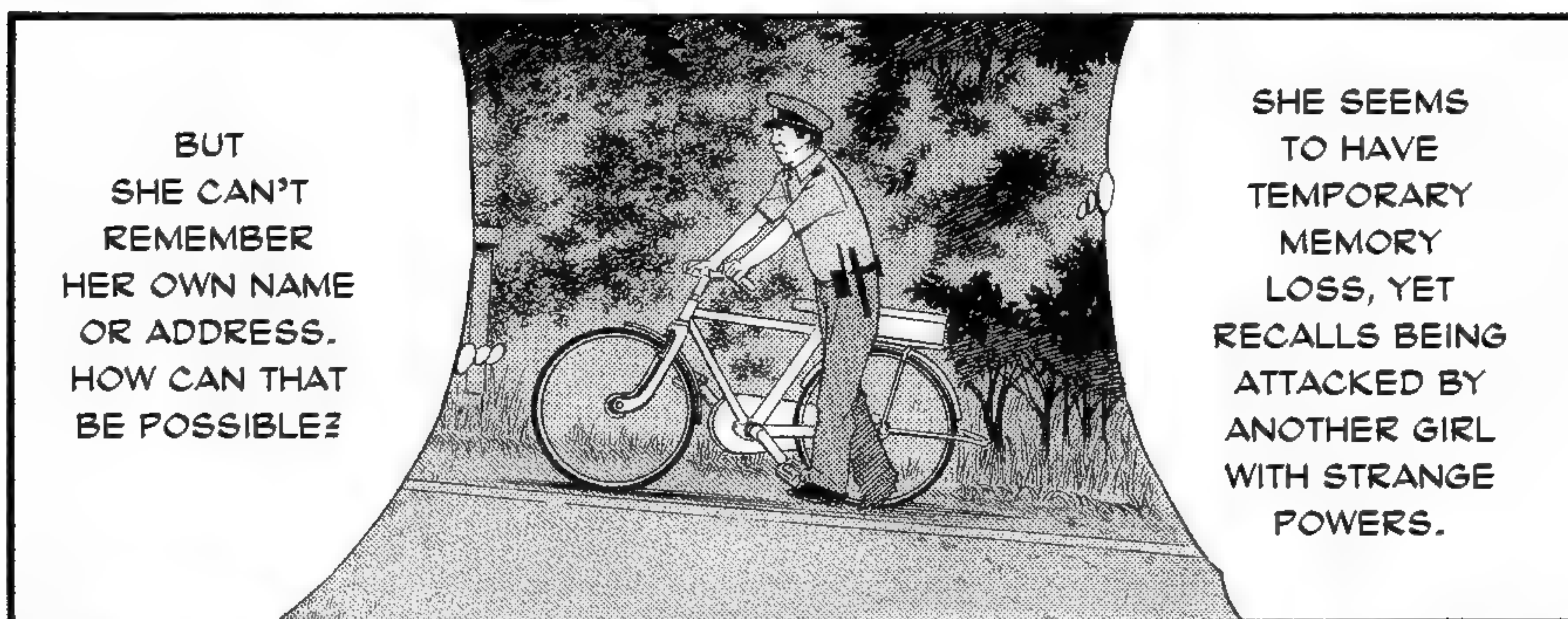


TAKE
YOUR
TIME.

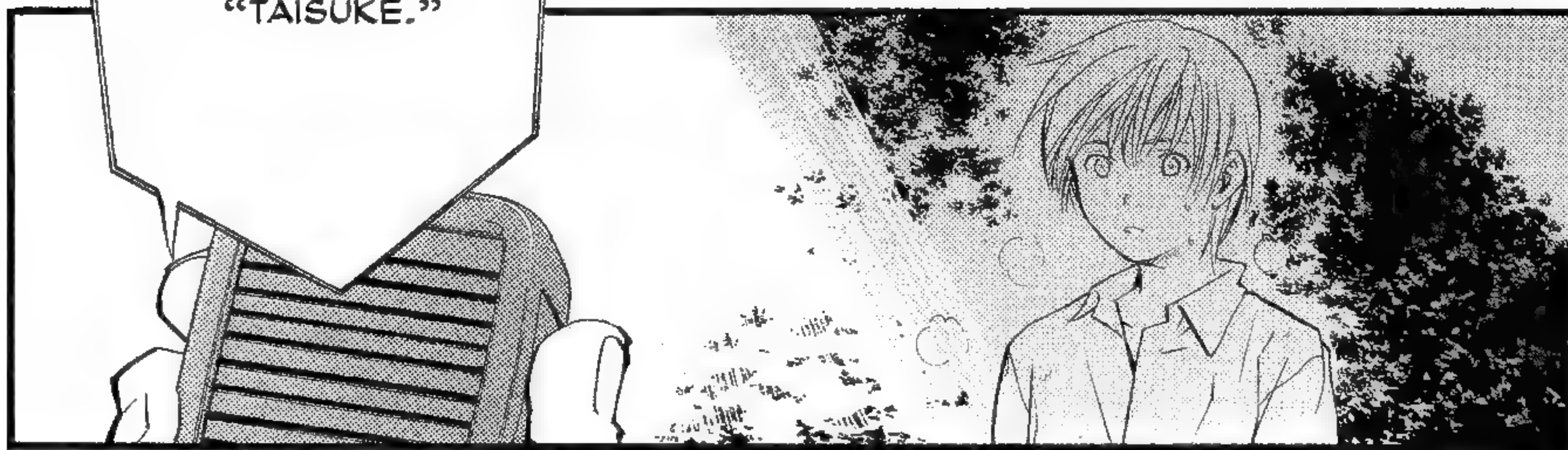


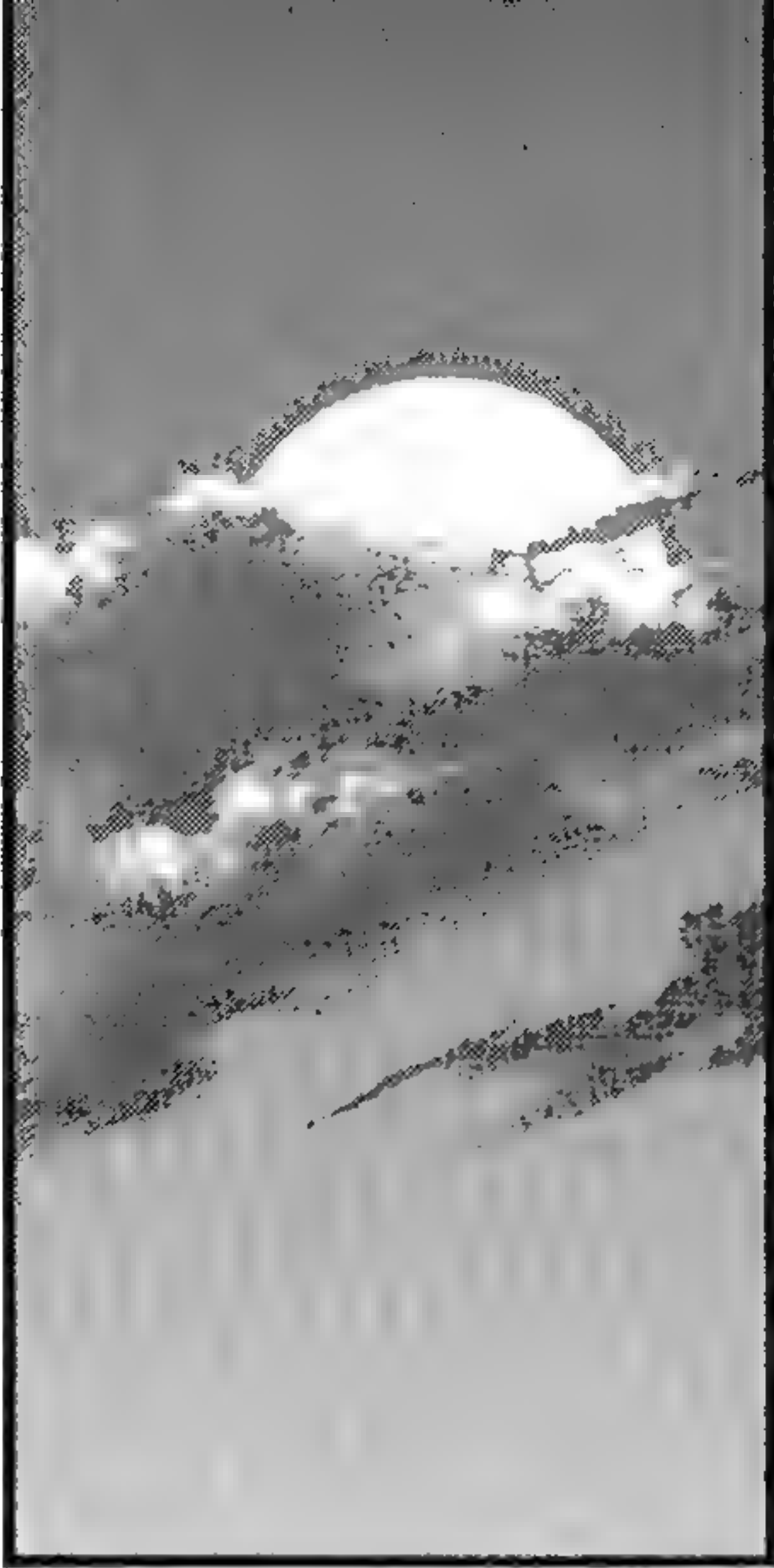
TA...





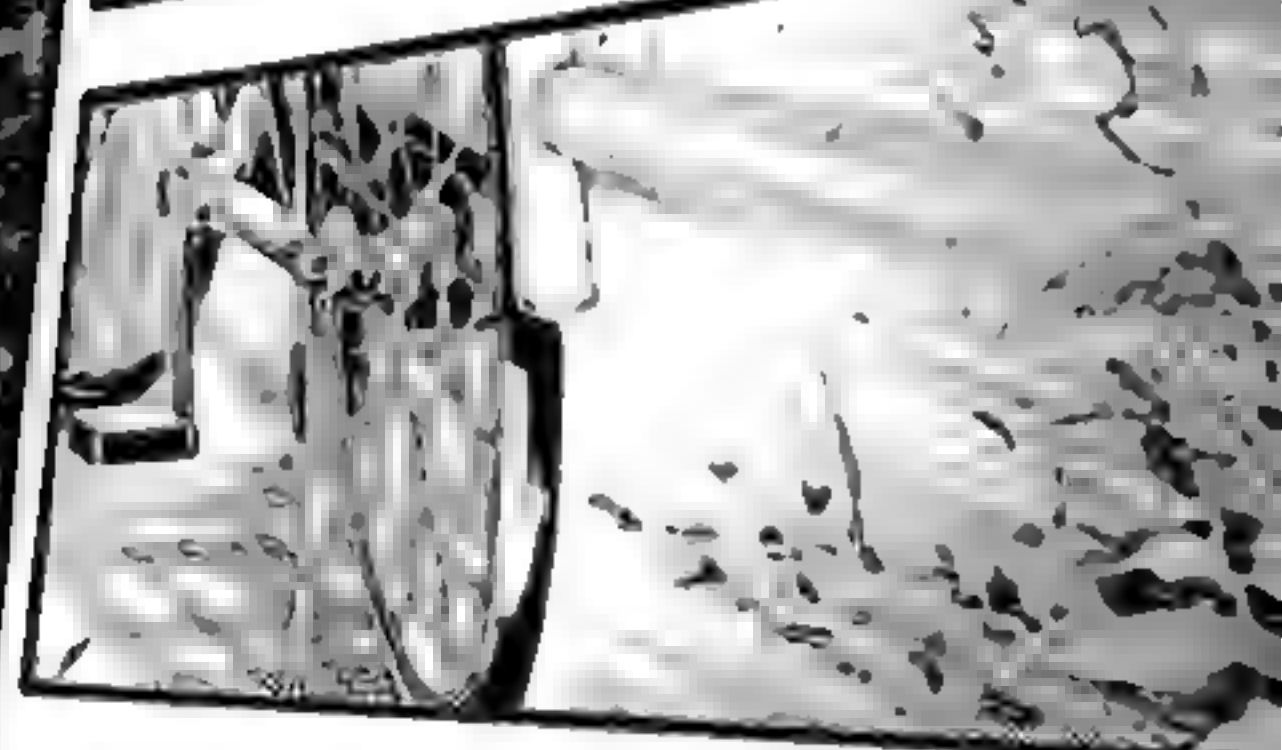






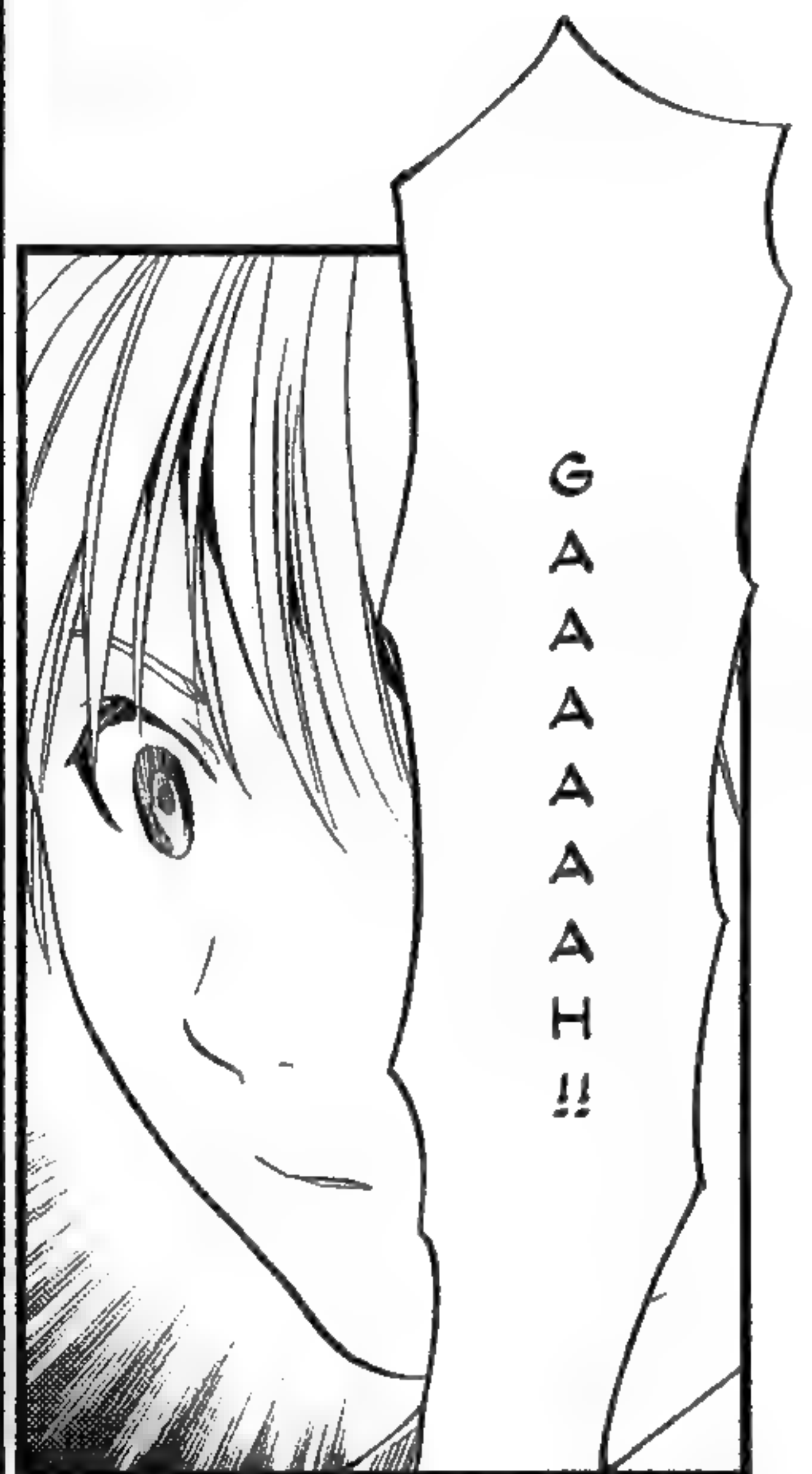
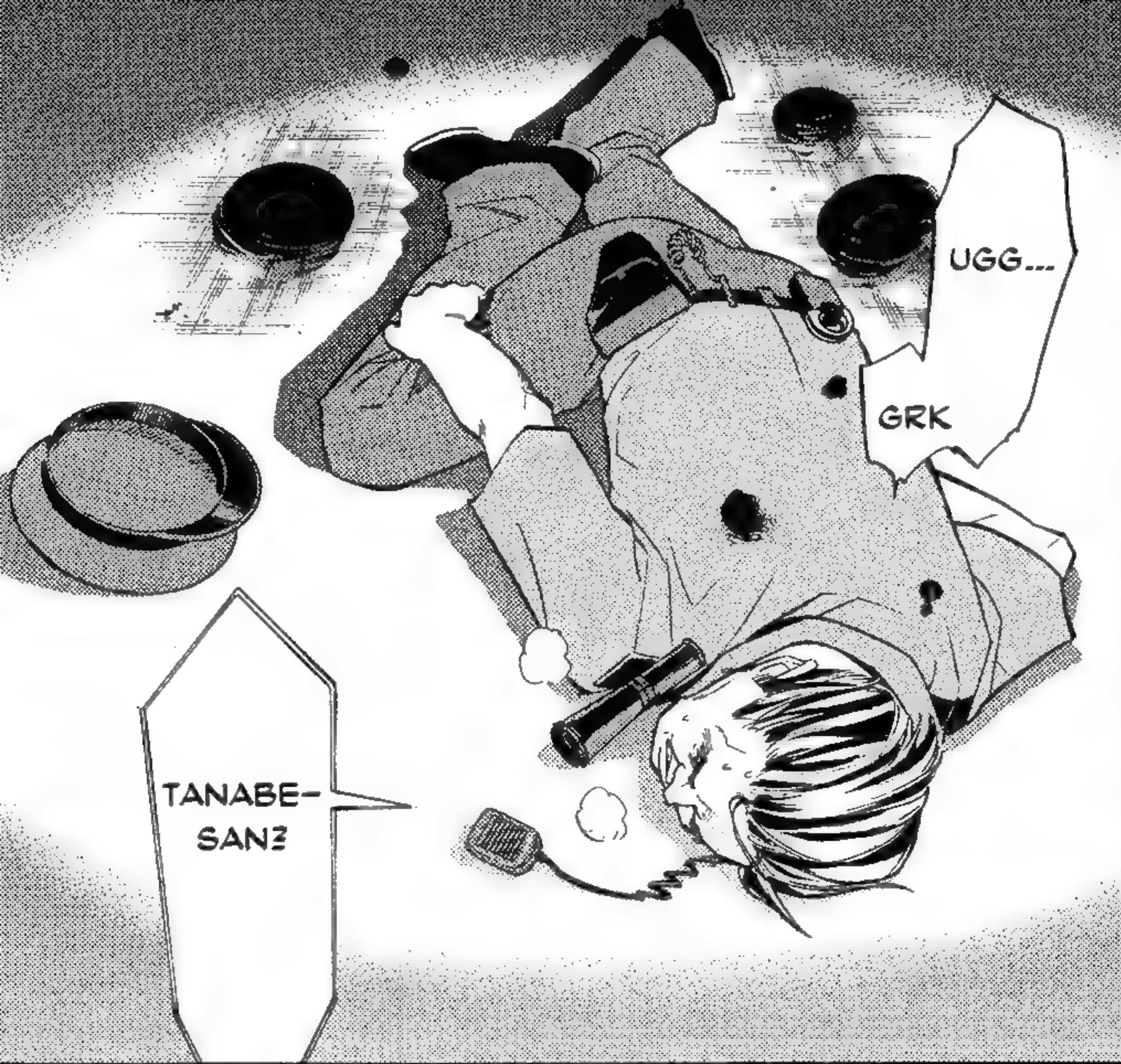


SLIT



BUT
DON'T
YOU WANT
ME??

OCHIAI-SAN...
I
FOUND
YOU...





HE'LL DIE
ANYWAY.



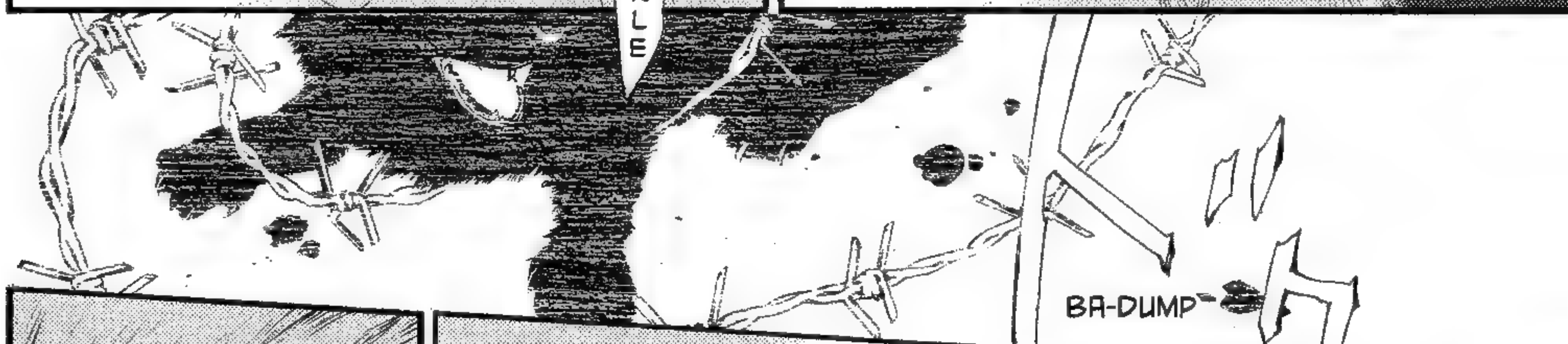
THINK



ARE
YOU
AFRAID
TO KILL?

THINK

YOU
MUST
DO IT TO
EVOLVE.



BA-DUMP-



CAN'T
YOU
KILL?



YOU
ERASED IT
OUT OF
FEAR.

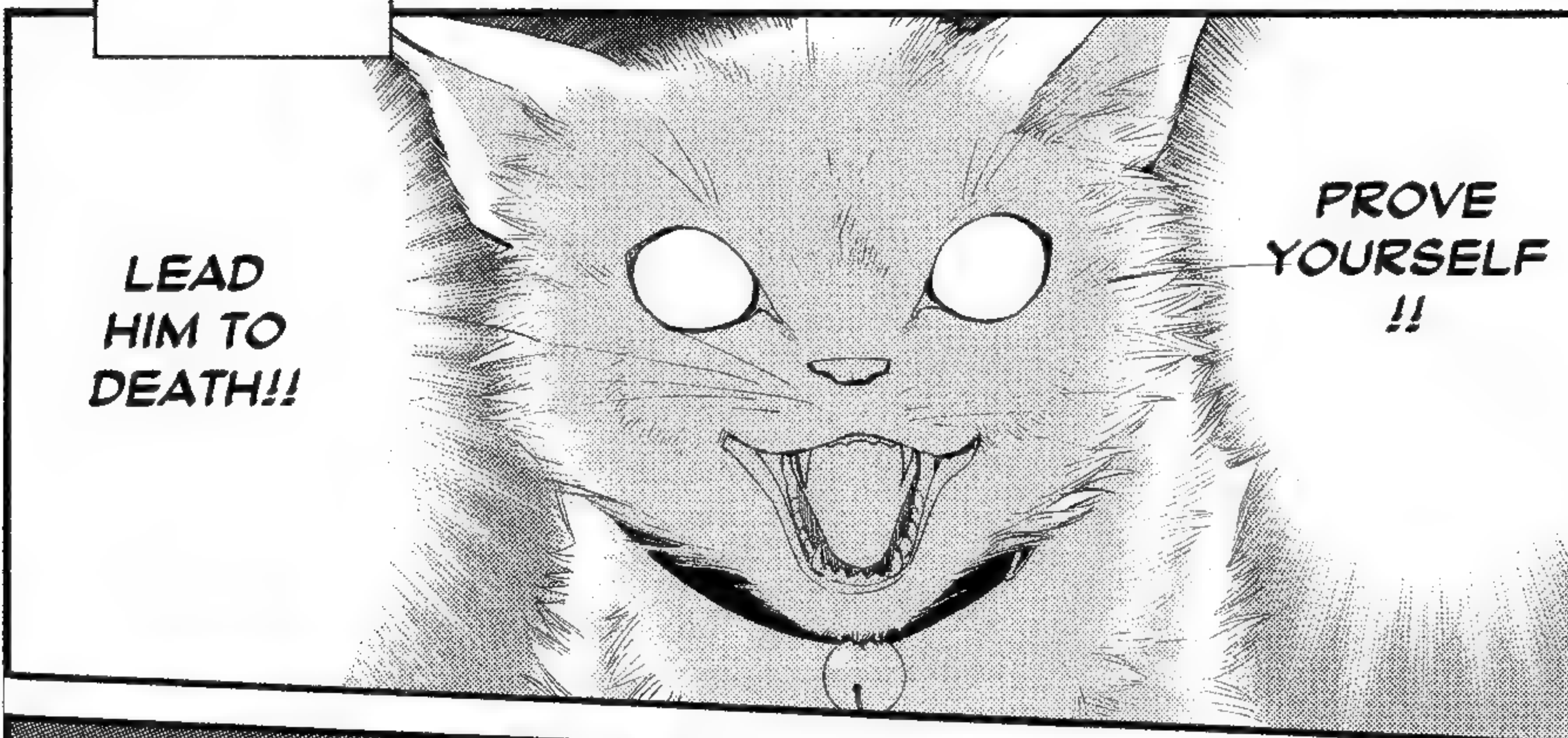
BUT YOU
CANNOT
RECALL IT,
CAN YOU?



OF COURSE
NOT. I'VE
KILLED
BEFORE...



I
REMEMBERED...

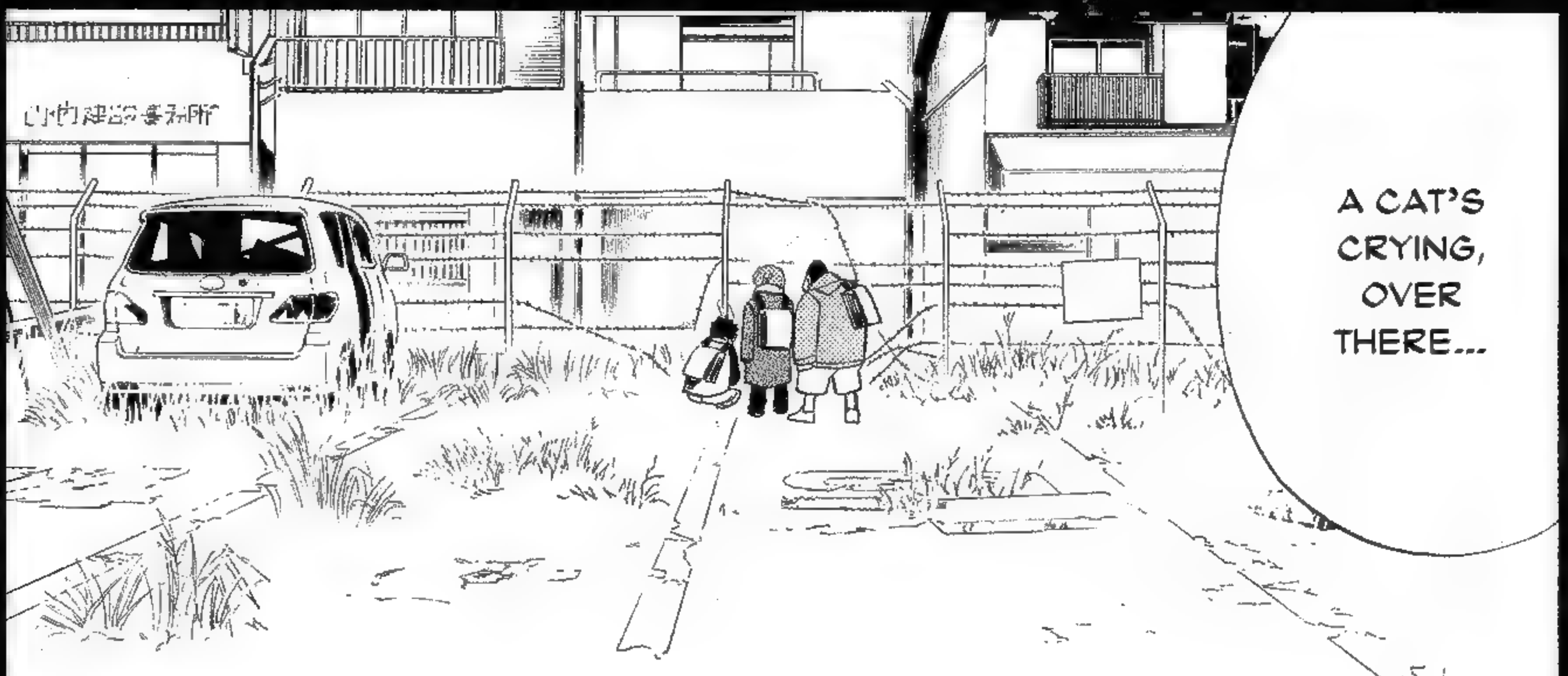


LEAD
HIM TO
DEATH!!

PROVE
YOURSELF
!!



BACK
THEN,
I-





WHOA!!
A CAT!!



MAN, THE
CAT IS
TANGLED
IN THE
BARBED
WIRE.

TWANG

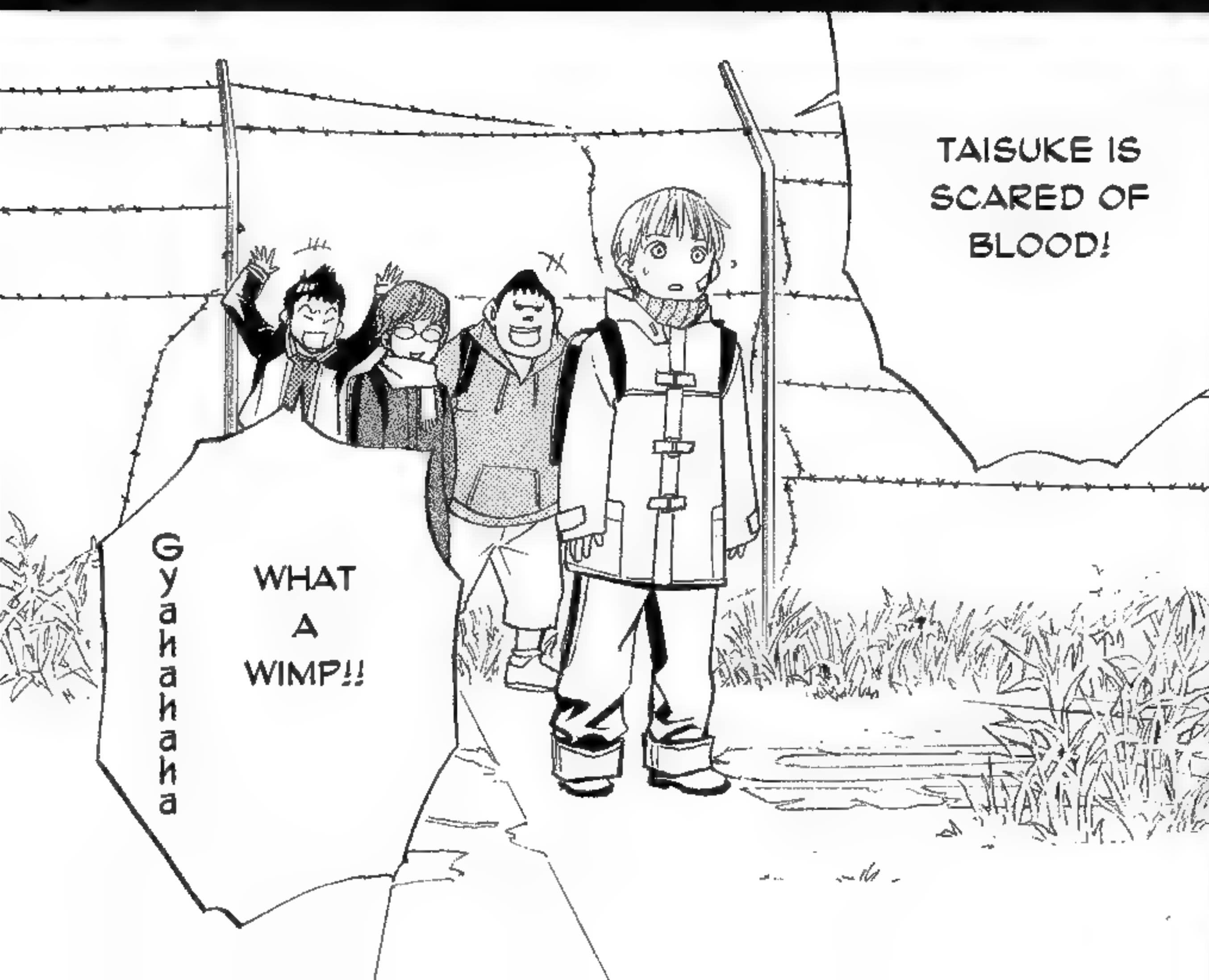
YUUUCK.

HE'S
DONE.



IT'S
BLEEDING!

AH...



TAISUKE IS
SCARED OF
BLOOD!

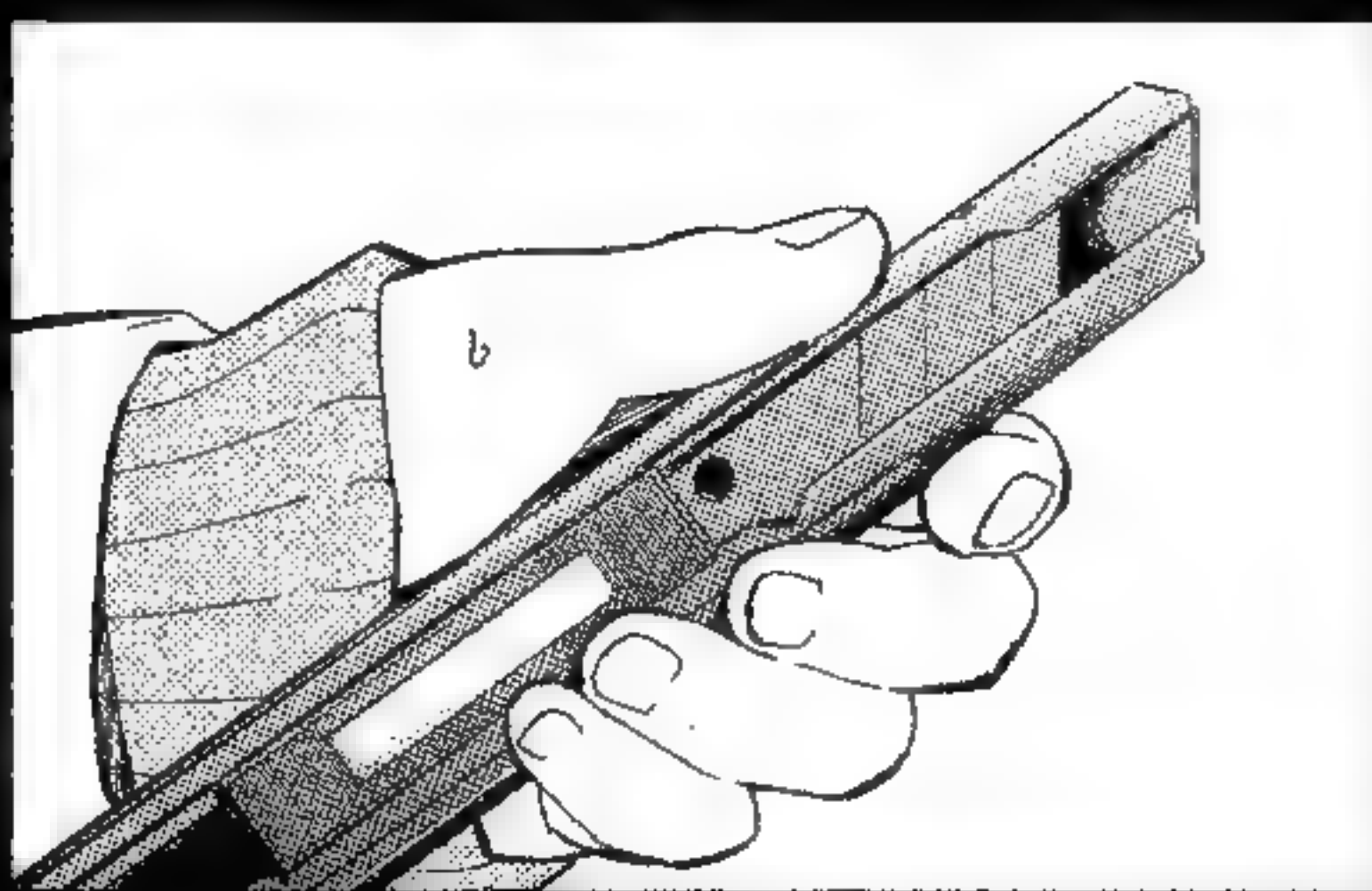
WHAT
A
WIMP!!

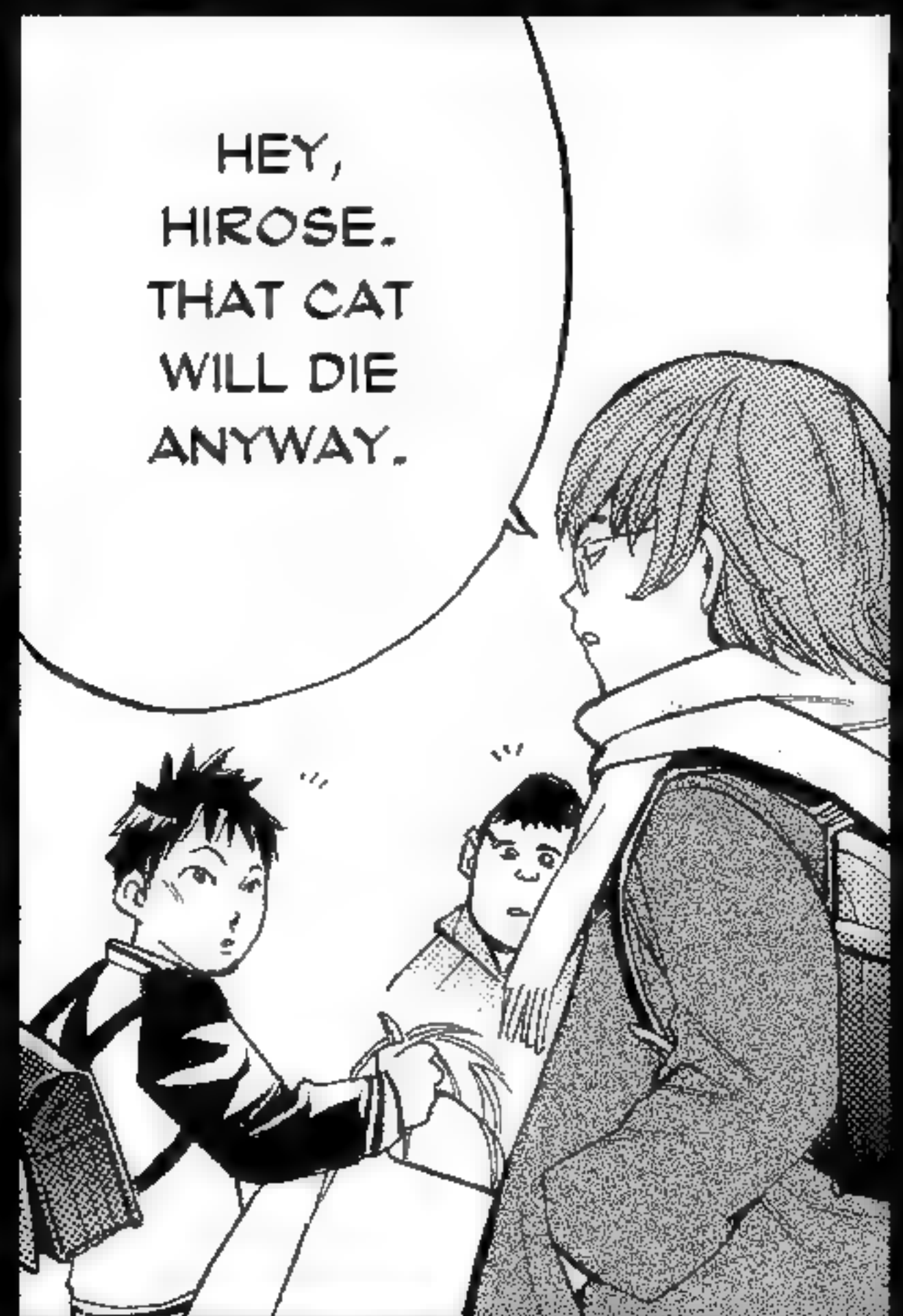
Gyahahaha



DASH

!







AREN'T
YOU A
NICE BOY,
HIROSE?

OH?



!?

N-NO!
I
CAN'T!



YOU'RE SO
NICE,
HIROSE-KUN...

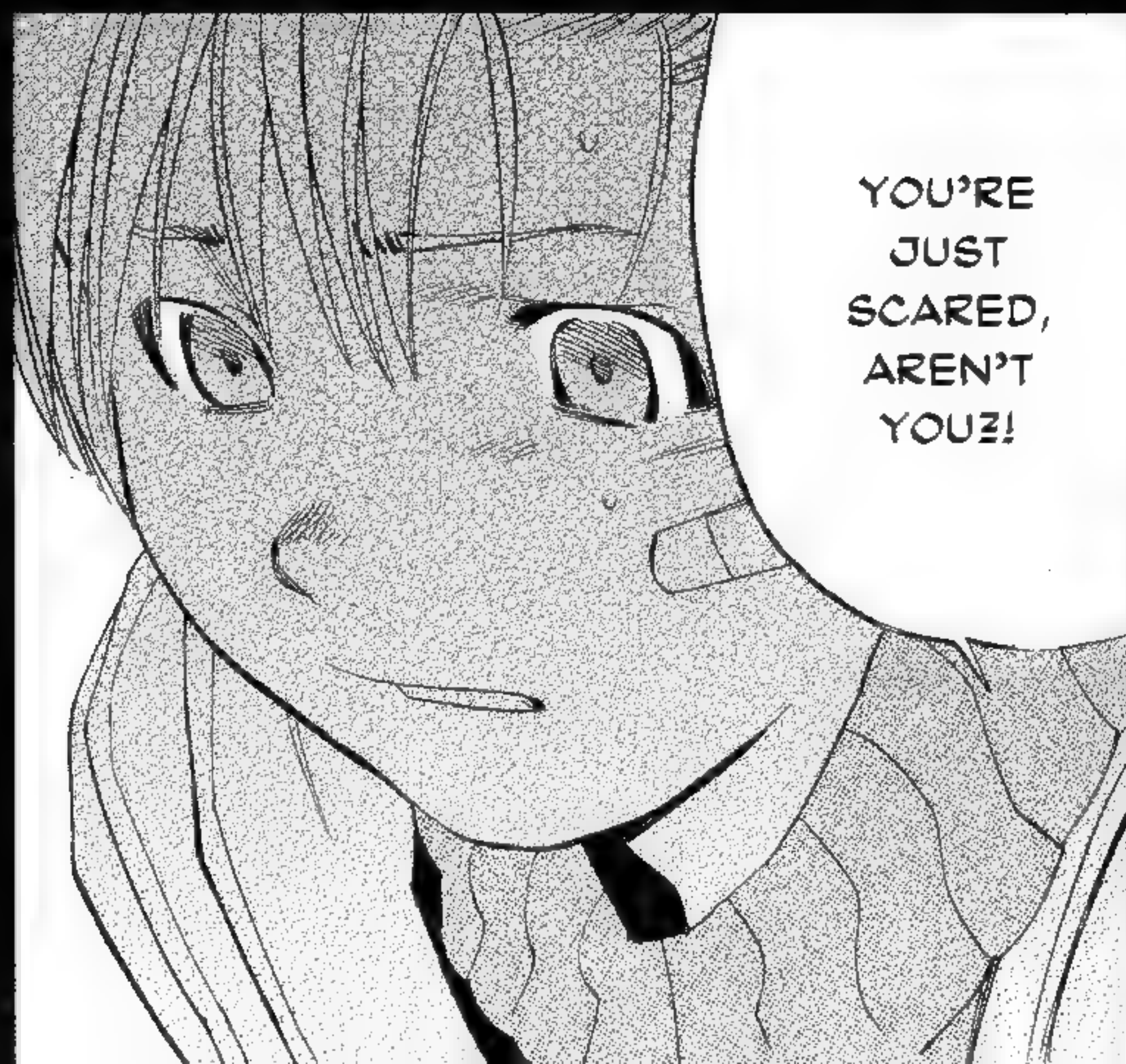


BLUSH

QUIT ACTING
SO COOL IN
FRONT OF
THE GIRLS!

YOU DON'T
WANT TO DO
THINGS...THAT
YOU DON'T
WANT DONE
TO YOURSELF,
RIGHT?

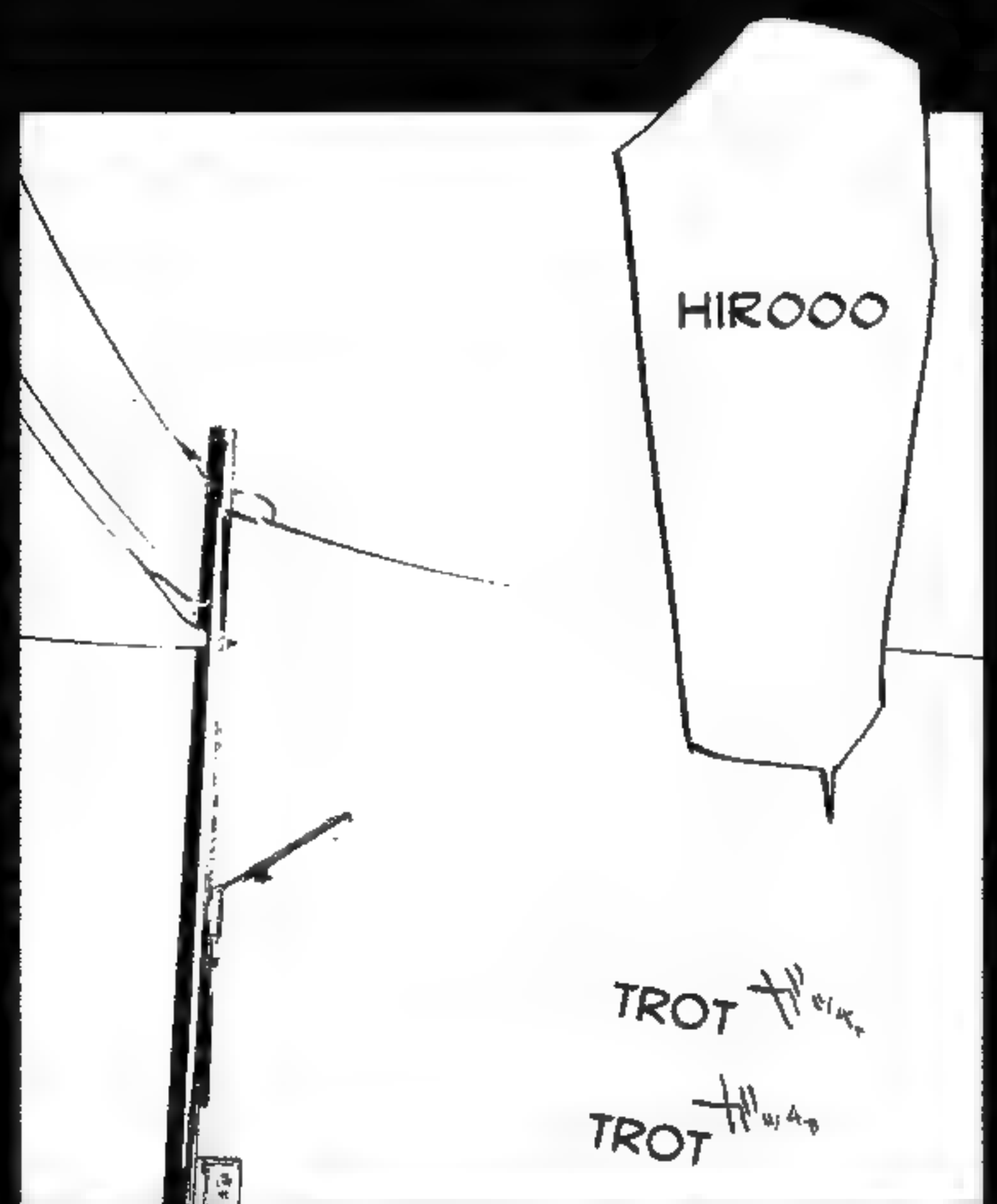
Tsk

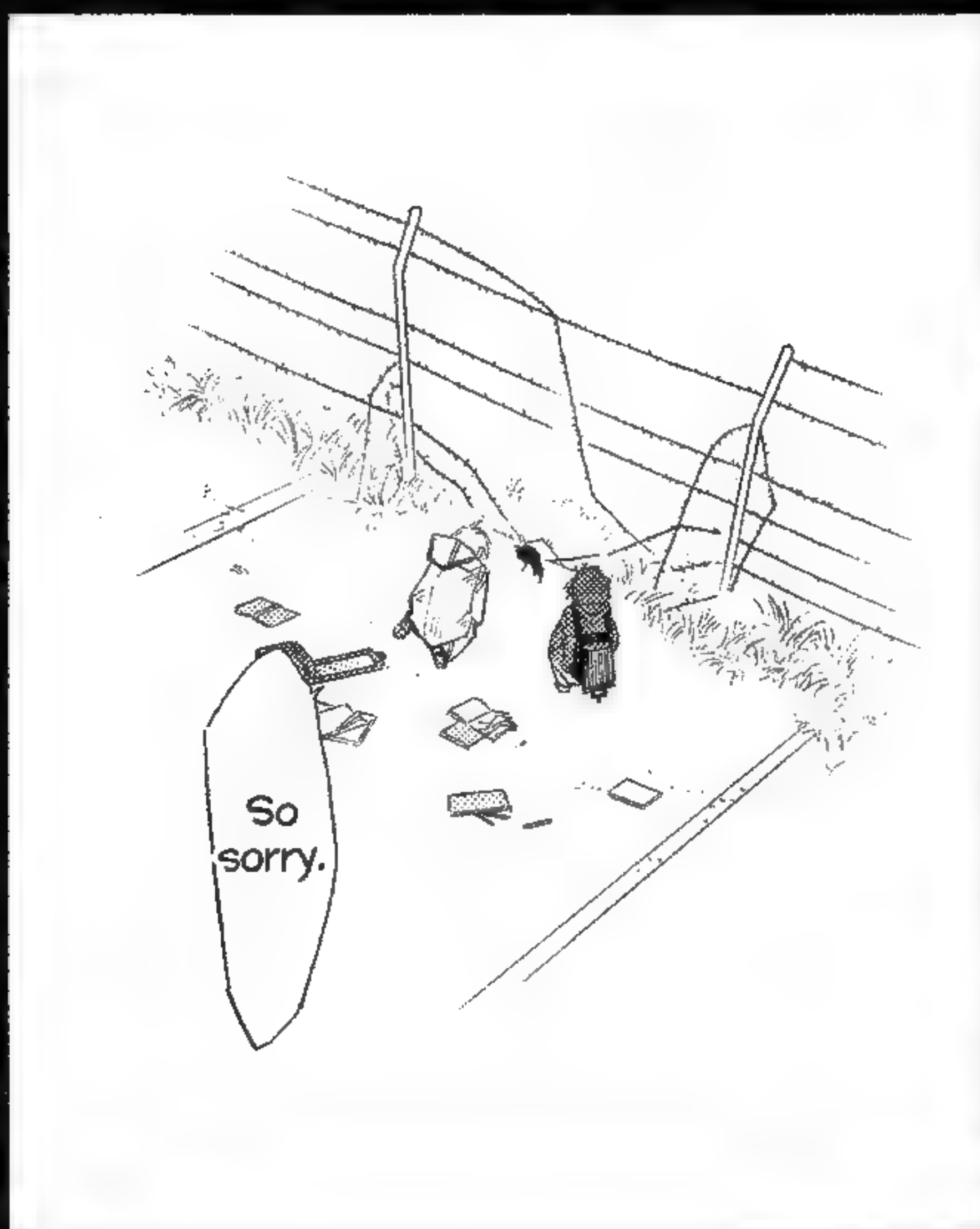
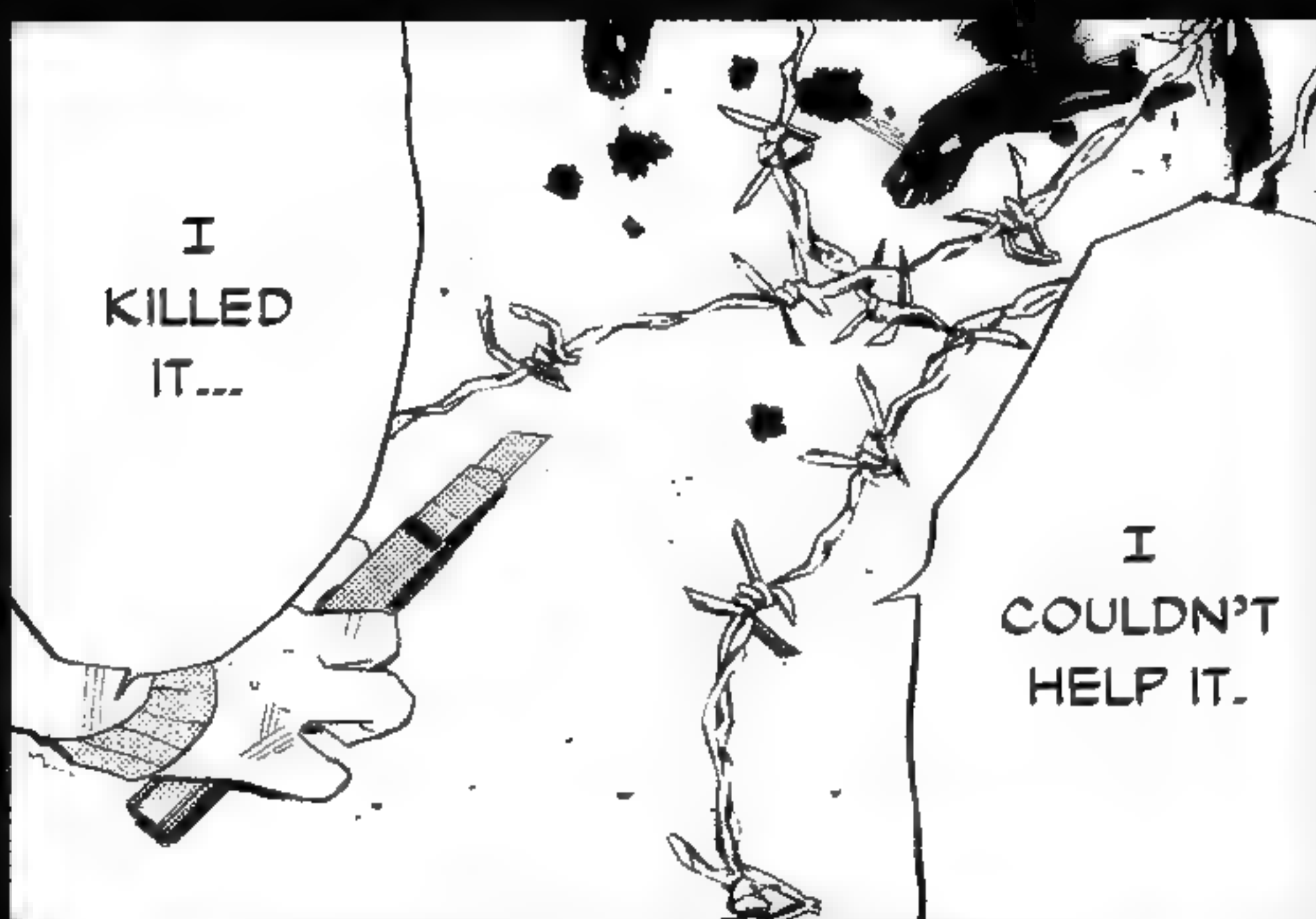


YOU'RE
JUST
SCARED,
AREN'T
YOU?!



YOU'RE
ALWAYS
HIDING
BEHIND
TAISUKE...





BACK
THEN, I
WAS TOO
SCARED
TO DO IT.

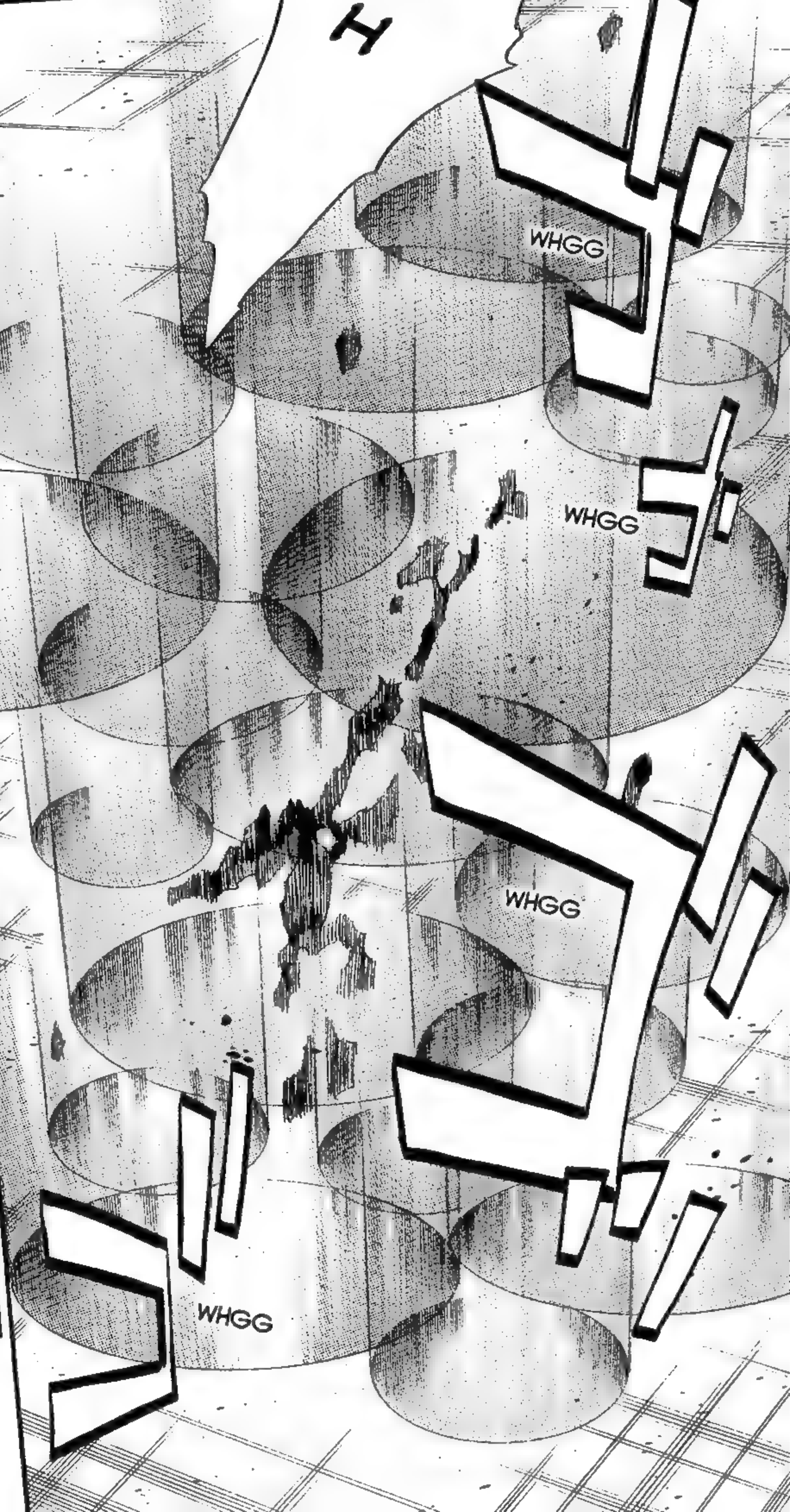
YES...
I
REMEMBER.

BUT NOW...

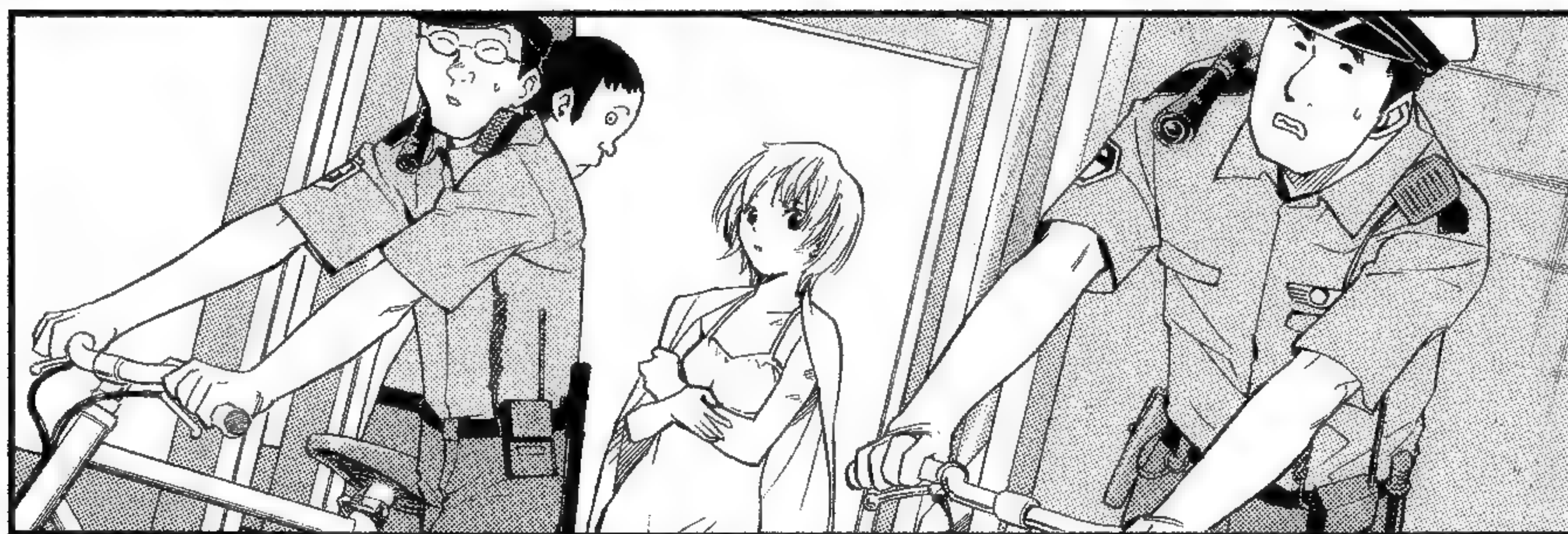
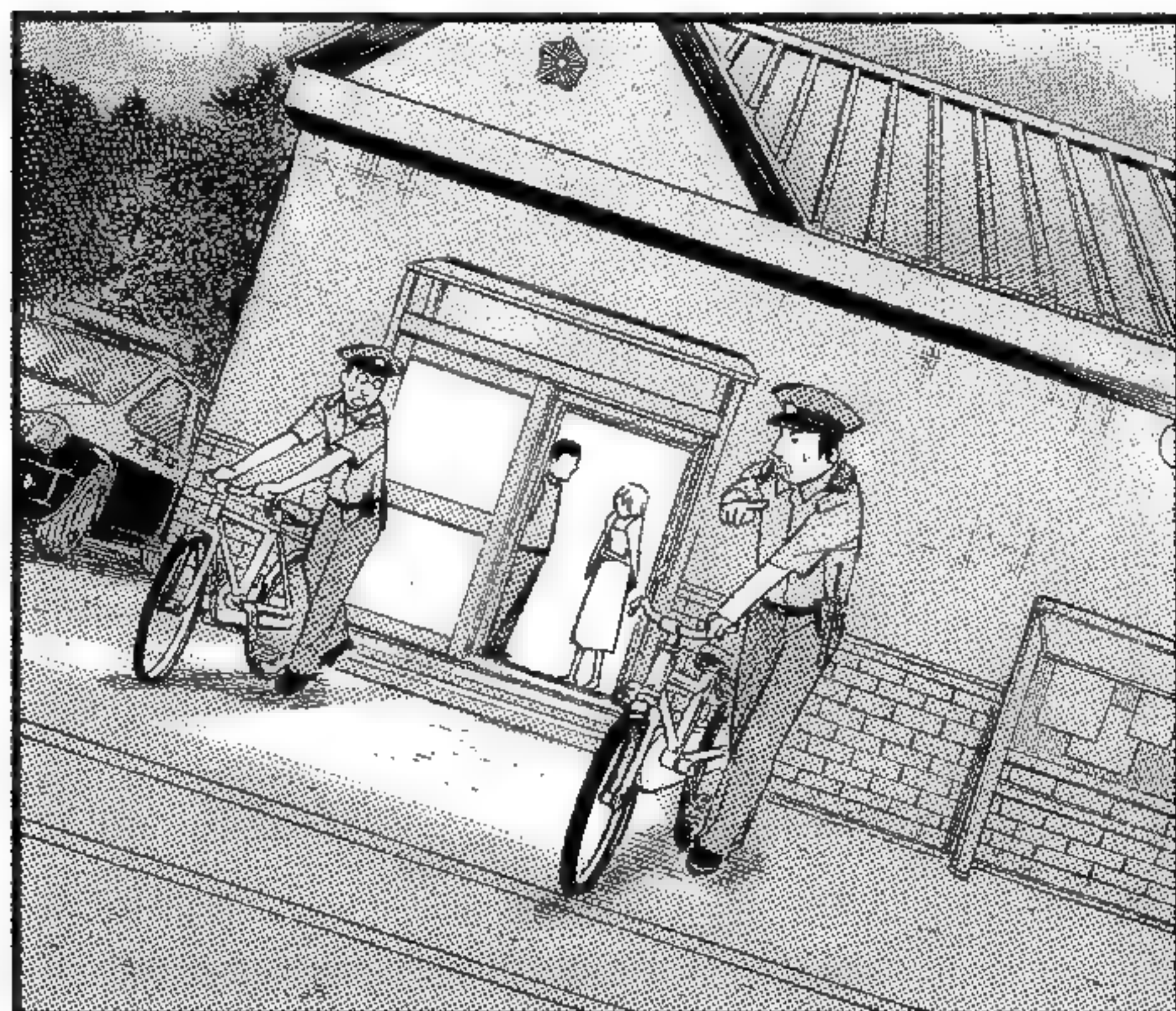




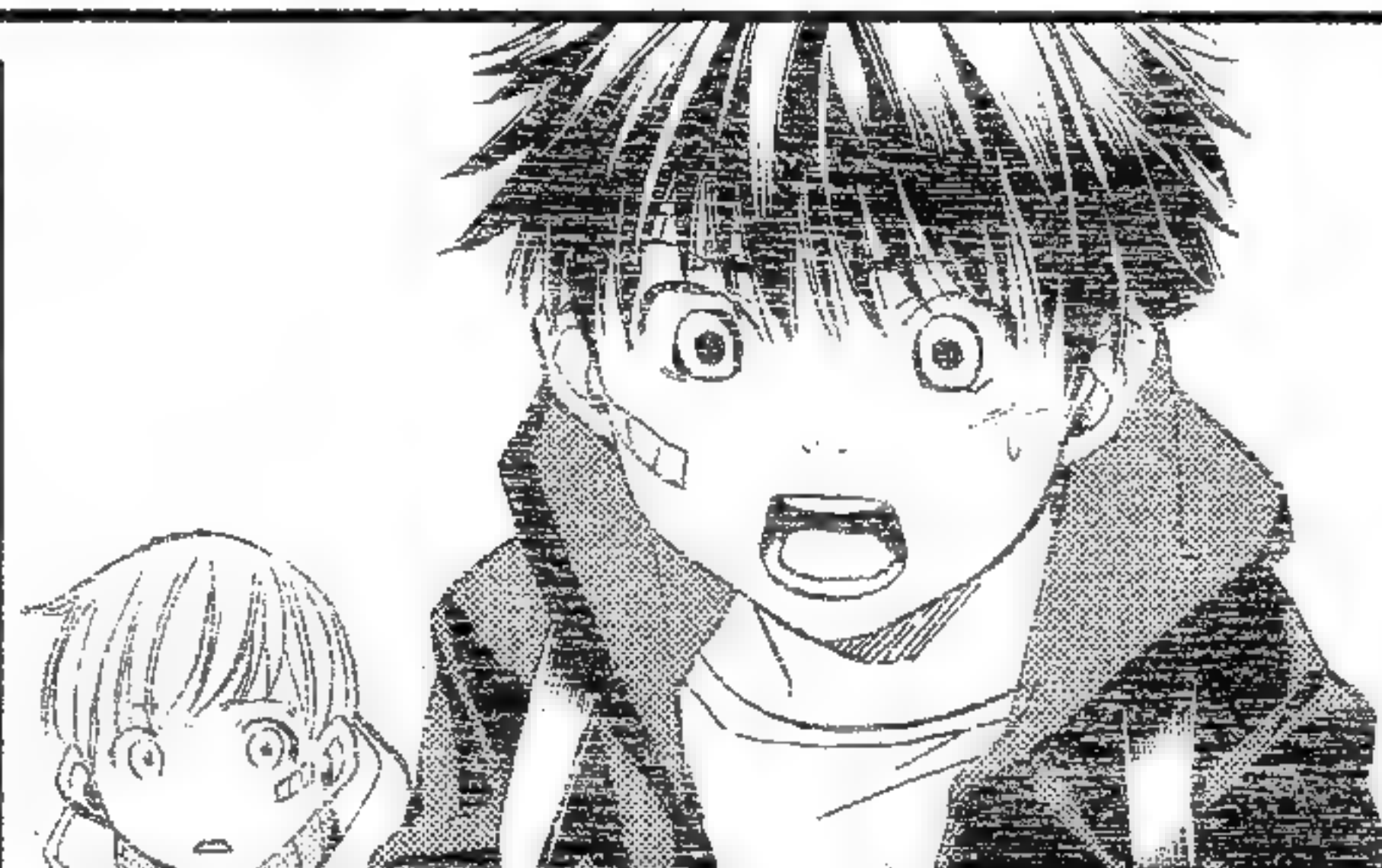
IAAAW



IT'S
EASY.



TAISUKE'S
GREATEST
FEAR —

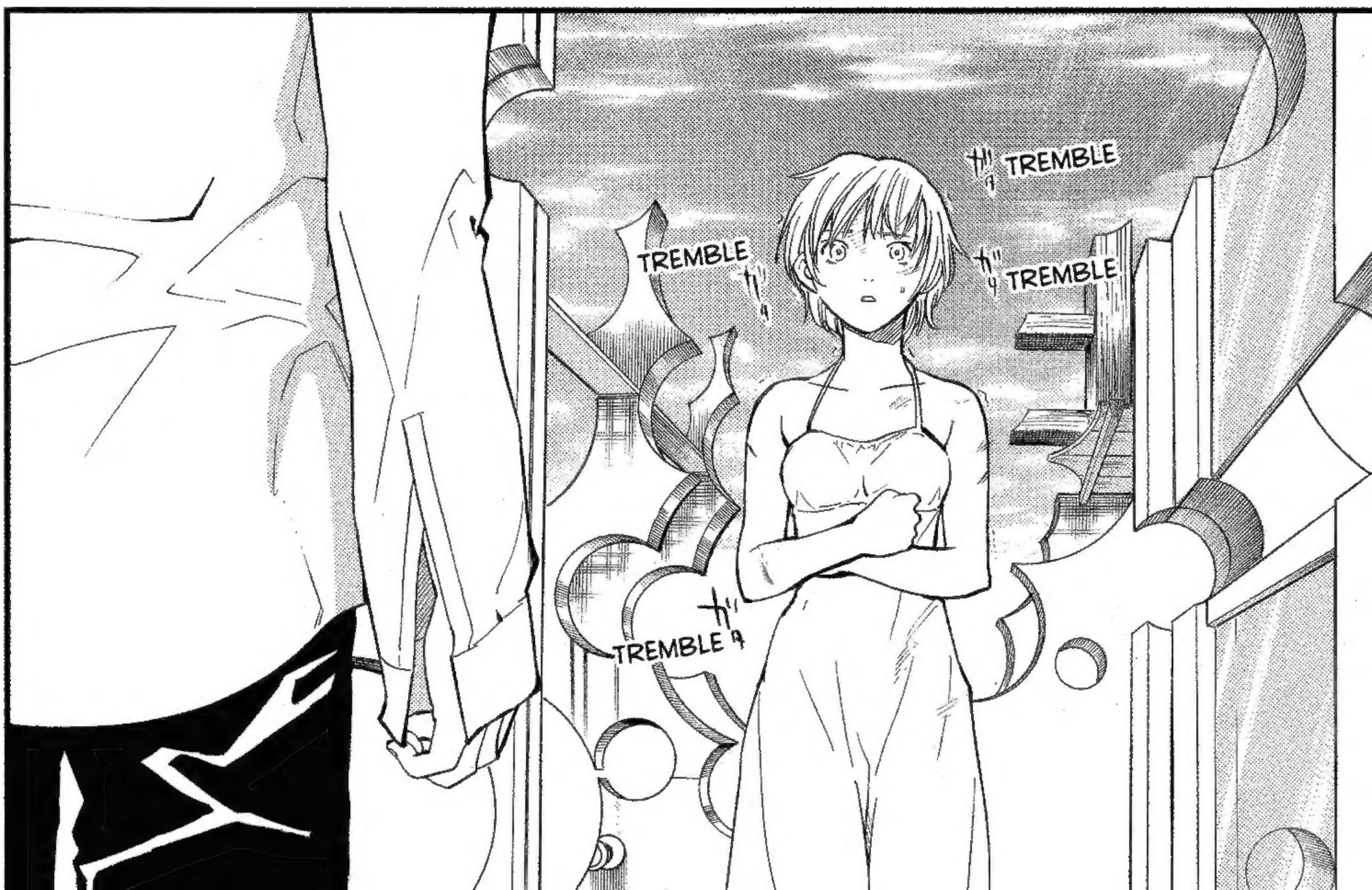
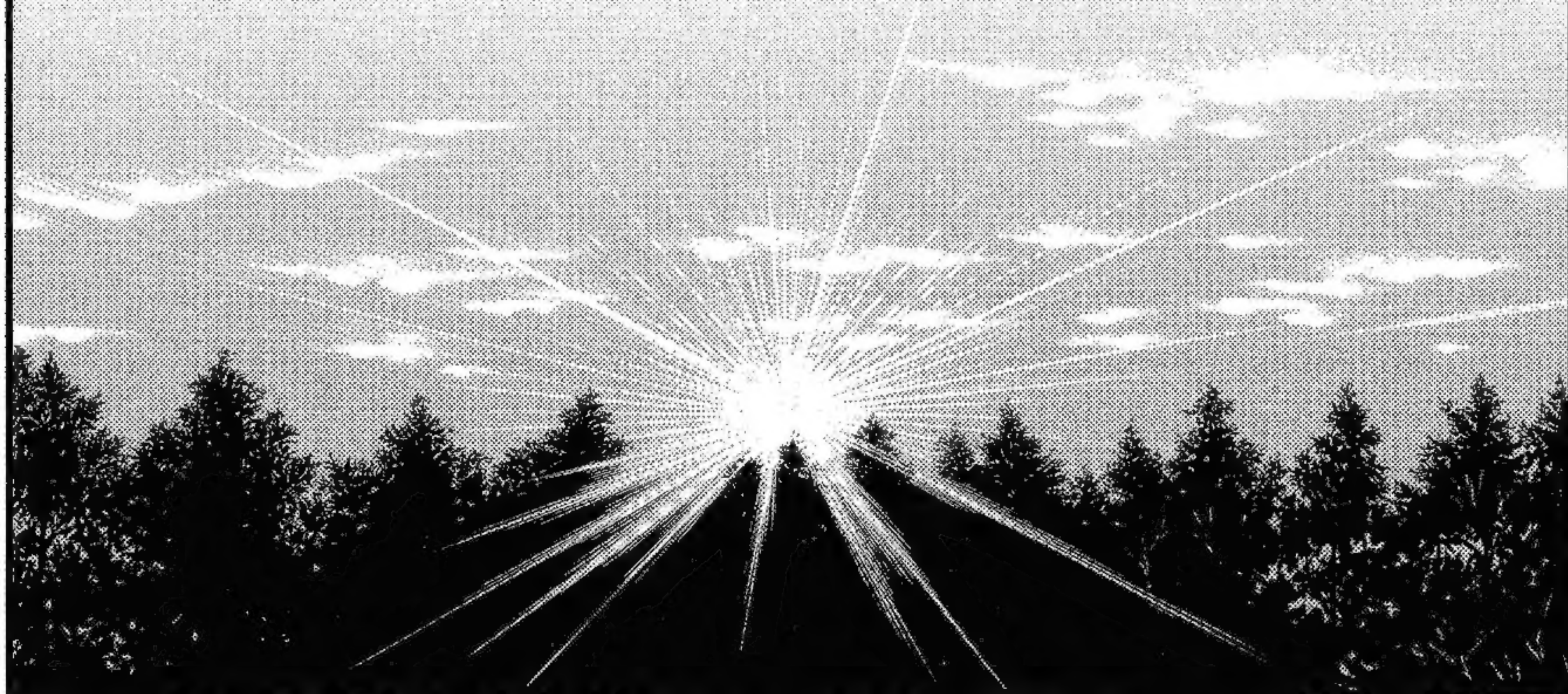


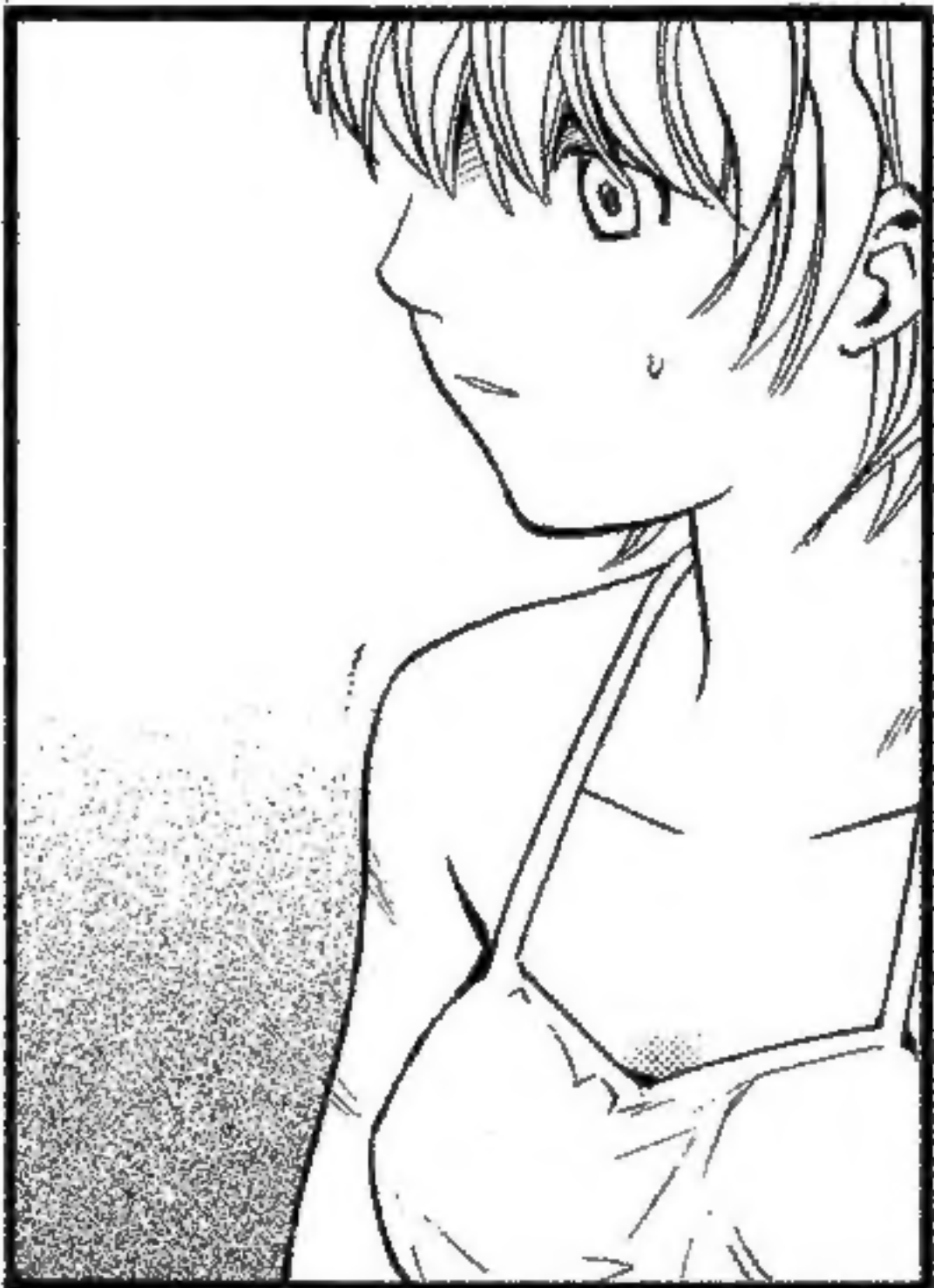
I
NOW
REALIZE

IT'S
DEATH.

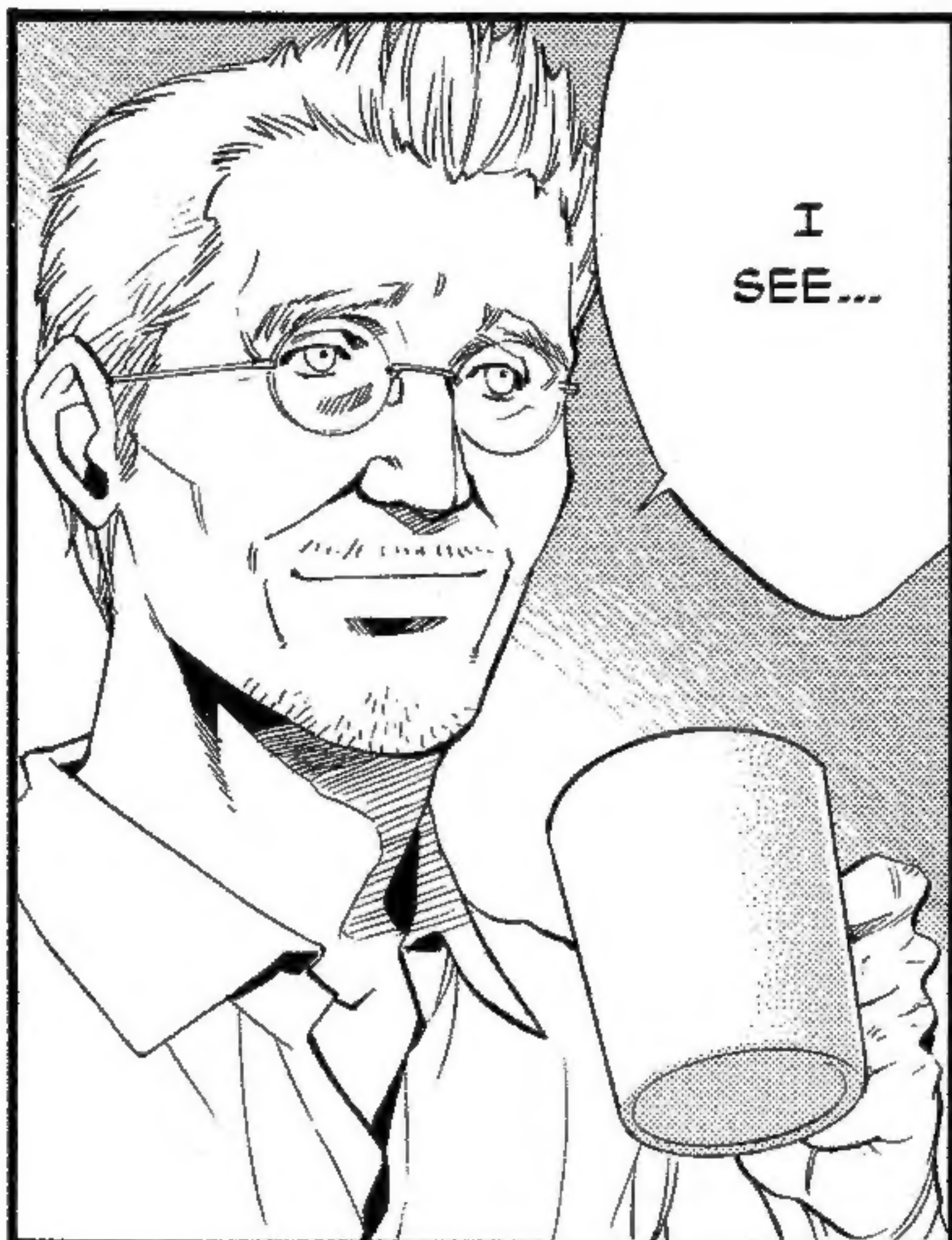
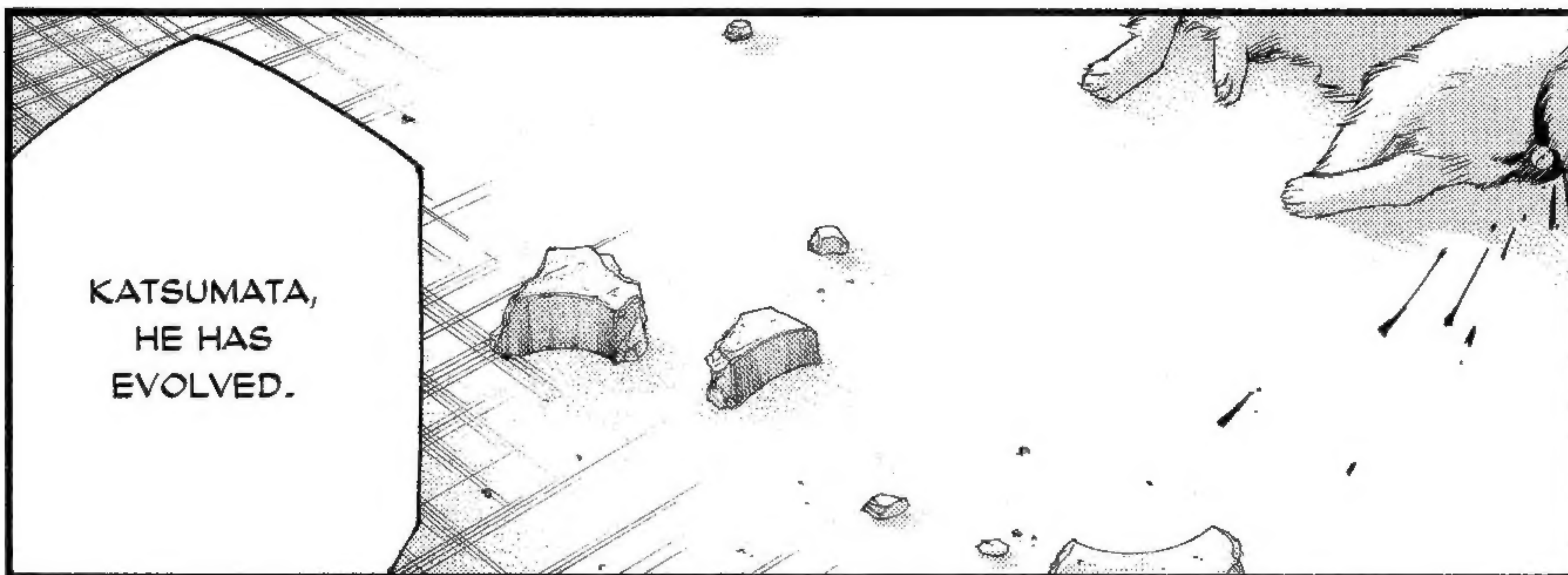
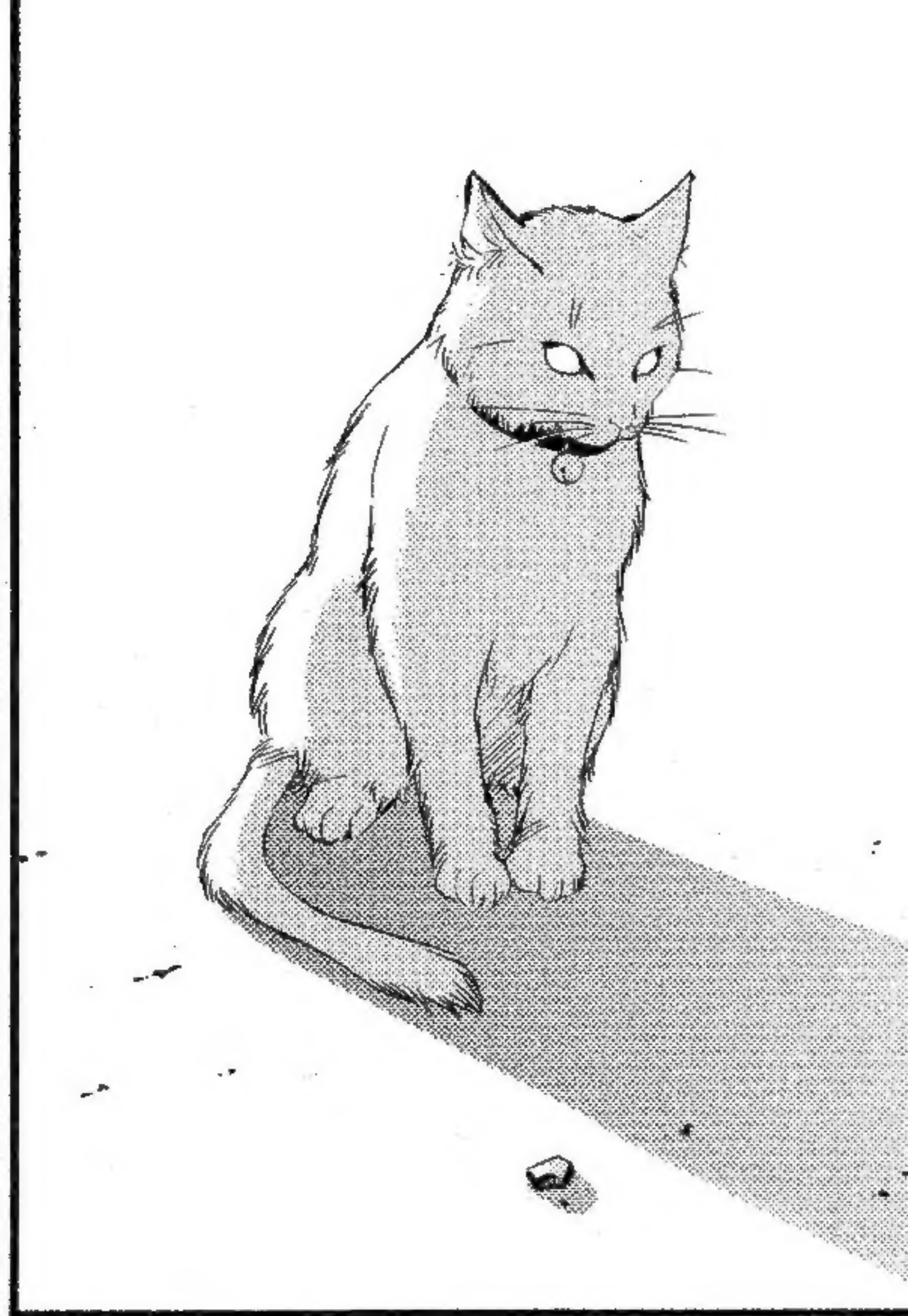
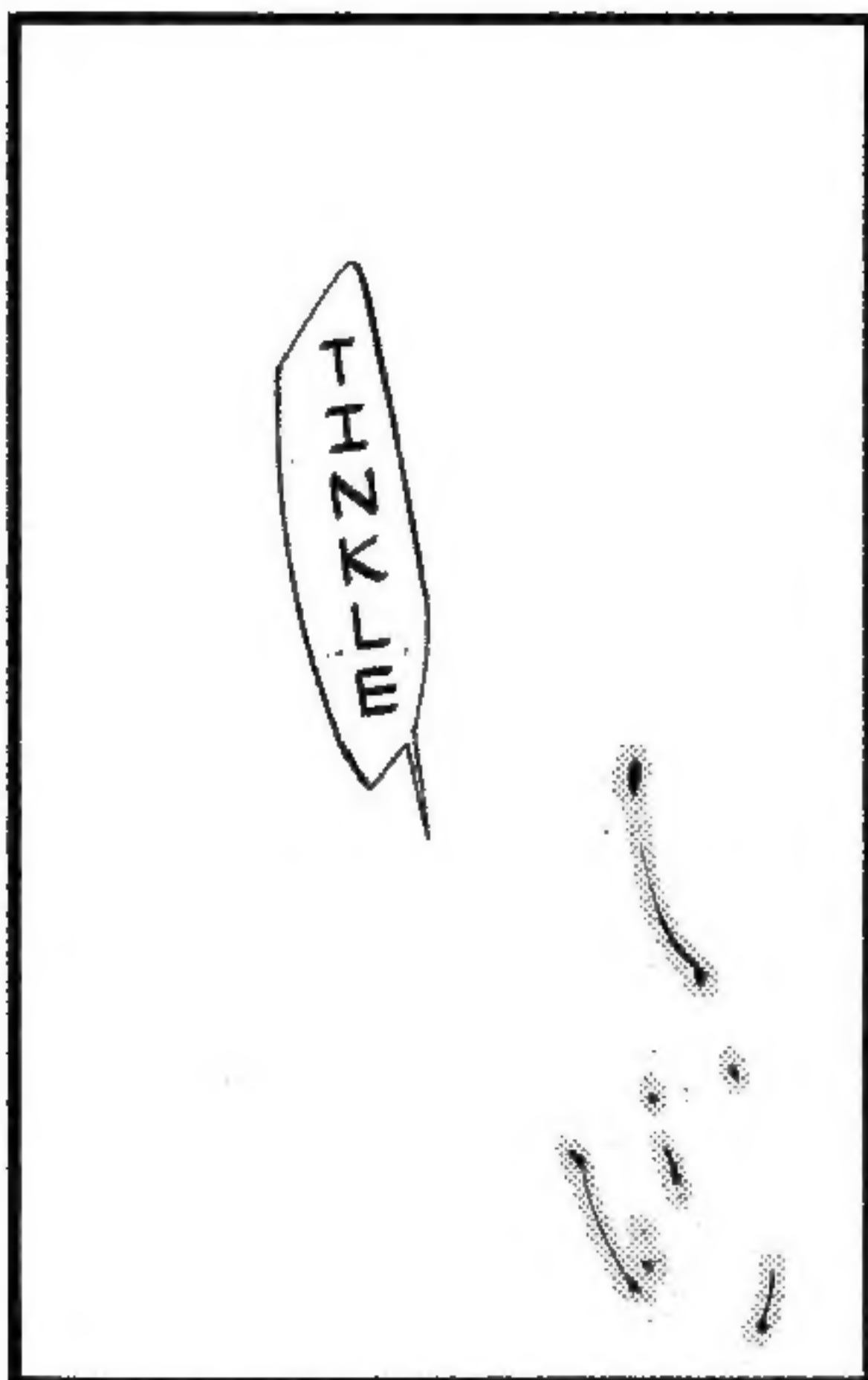








LET'S
RETURN,
OCHIAI-SAN.



I LOOK
FORWARD
TO THE NEW
HIROSE.



Continued in volume 6